

Fayez returns from Portugal

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez returned to Amman on Sunday at the end of a visit to Portugal at the head of a parliamentary delegation. In a statement upon returning here Mr. Fayez said that he held talks with the Portuguese speaker of parliament, the prime minister and the foreign minister and representatives of political parties. He said he discussed with the Portuguese leaders the Middle East question, the Iraq-Iran war and the situation in Lebanon. Mr. Fayez said that he briefed the Portuguese officials on Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East through an international conference to be attended by all concerned parties in the issue. He said Portuguese officials voiced their support for Arab causes and demanded the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab land. These officials, he said, also expressed support for all efforts being made to end the Gulf war.

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King receives Soviet envoy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein received Soviet envoy Mikhail Sytenko on Sunday. Mr. Sytenko, who is the envoy of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, conveyed to the King the Soviet position on the Reykjavik summit, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. The agency did not give more details. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi and Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk.

Child transplant patient doing well

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mohammad Al Fareh, the six-year-old who underwent a heart transplant surgery earlier this week, was reported in good condition on Sunday, four days after a team of Jordanian doctors performed the surgery. The patient appeared on Jordan Television pacing his room at the King Hussein Medical Centre, where the surgery — the first on a child and the third of its kind in the Kingdom — was performed.

Assad meets Saudi envoy

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Abdul Aziz Al Tuwejri, the deputy commander of the Saudi National Guards and a senior adviser to Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, was received by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Sunday. No details of the meeting were available but it was believed that the visit was related to the Saudi crown prince's efforts to heal differences between Syria and Iraq.

Six blacks killed in mine accident

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — An elevator cage crashed to the bottom of a gold mine shaft Sunday, killing six black miners and seriously injuring at least four others, company officials were quoted as saying. The miners were among 38 working at the bottom of the 800-metre ventilation shaft of the country's biggest gold mine, Randfontein Estates Gold Mining Co. Ltd. The elevator cage fell when a cable snapped. There were 28 black miners and four whites in the shaft at the time of the accident.

40 hurt aboard Thai airliner

TOKYO (AP) — At least 40 people were injured, seven seriously, when a Thai Airways jetliner suddenly lost cabin pressure and had to make an emergency landing Sunday night at Osaka in western Japan, police said. A police official said some passengers were injured when they hit the plane's ceiling and others when the plane braked sharply after landing. Yuiji Miyoshi, a Transport Ministry official at Osaka, said in a telephone interview that 247 people, including 14 crew members, were aboard.

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Rifai: Israeli drive for settlements will hamper peace efforts

Premier returns after Cairo meetings 3 Jordanian-Egyptian protocols signed

CAIRO (Agencies) — Jordan on Sunday condemned Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's drive to continue to build Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and said the Israeli policy posed a major obstacle in efforts for peace.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, talking to reporters after concluding a two-day meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee, warned that if Israel continued its settlement policy, "it will be another complicated obstacle in finding a just and comprehensive peace settlement for the Middle East through an international conference."

Mr. Shamir, who took over Israel's premiership last Monday from Shimon Peres under a power-sharing coalition agreement, told his parliament in a policy statement that his Likud party was determined to continue to build Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Mr. Shamir

followed up his statement with an emphatic visit to a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and reiterating the call for continued building of settlements elsewhere in the territory under occupation. In an interview with the Jerusalem Post on Friday, the Likud leader repeated the call.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul-Meguid have cautioned Israel against building more Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Mr. Rifai told reporters on Sunday: "We hope the Israeli government will maintain the policy adopted by the coalition in dropping projects for building new settlements which may

obstruct the search for just and lasting peace in the region."

Mr. Rifai held talks with Mr. Mubarak on Saturday.

He told reporters on Sunday that Jordan insisted on an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

He also expressed hope the new Israeli government would accept the principle of convening an international conference agreed by Mr. Peres and President Mubarak in Alexandria last month.

Jordan would continue its efforts with other Arab countries to reach "an acceptable Arab and international formula" for holding the conference, he said.

In reply to a question on the present visit to Jordan of Hani Al Hassan, a political adviser to PLO

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'Israel covered up Kafr Kassem massacre'

TEL AVIV (R) — A mayor accused the Israeli government on Sunday of covering up a massacre of Arabs by troops in his village 30 years ago.

Mayor Abdul Rahim Yissa said newspaper interviews with Israelis involved in the 1956 killing of 49 Arabs in Kafr Kassem showed that the then prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, was linked to the slaughter and subsequent suppression of information.

"For 30 years we thought the people responsible for the murder were the unit commanders or the soldiers themselves. But the names of those involved recently appeared in the newspaper Ha'ir along with their roles in this massacre and their direct connections with... Ben-Gurion," Mr. Yissa told a news conference.

"We ask ourselves why (the government) hid these things 30 years. The public has a right to know what happened," he said. The massacre at Kafr Kassem,

near Tel Aviv, on Oct. 29, began when villagers, apparently unaware of a night curfew, were returning home from work in the fields.

Eight of the 11-man unit that opened fire on the civilians were tried for the attack but released after serving three years of sentences ranging from seven to 17 years.

In the Ha'ir article, the widow of the unit's commanding officer, said: "Part of the trial took place behind closed doors and it was impossible to go along the chain of command and discover the role of... the chief of staff and even the government in the affair."

She said Ben-Gurion asked her husband, Major Samuel Milinki, to be a "live sacrifice for the nation" and take the blame for the killings.

His rank was later restored and he was appointed head of security at Israel's top-secret Dimona nuclear reactor. Milinki died in 1978, holding the rank of colonel.

Ex-Dimona technician said to be held in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Anglican priest from Australia said Sunday, an Israeli who disclosed the Jewish state's nuclear secrets had been brought back to Israel against his will and was being held in jail.

The Rev. John McKnight said he was concerned for Mordechai Vanunu's safety.

Foreign reports have said Israeli Mossad secret service agents kidnapped Mr. Vanunu, either from London or from a yacht offshore in international waters. Those reports and dispatches from London published by Israeli newspapers have said Mr. Vanunu was brought here to face trial for violating Israel's "security law."

The Rev. McKnight, who converted Mr. Vanunu to Christianity four months ago in Australia, said a judge visited Mr. Vanunu in prison last week and reminded him in custody for an additional 15 days.

He said the information is included on public court documents. He declined to say where in Israel Mr. Vanunu was being held and said he was not sure who had brought him back to Israel.

Speaking at a news conference, the Rev. McKnight refused to divulge other sources of his information, saying he had promised to protect their identities. But he said details about Mr. Vanunu's whereabouts came from several reliable people.

Mr. Vanunu, 32, reportedly was a technician at a nuclear weapons factory at Dimona in the southern Negev Desert and disclosed to the

GCC urges Iran to make peace with Iraq

ABU DHABI (R) — Arab Gulf states urged Iran on Sunday to respond to efforts to end the six-year-old Gulf war, saying the continued conflict endangered all Gulf states and threatened world stability.

United Arab Emirates (UAE) Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi, opening a Gulf foreign ministers meeting, said the Gulf states would do everything in their power to stop the war between Iran and Iraq.

But he added: "No signs of an end to this economic and human bleeding have appeared on the horizon."

Leaders of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states — the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain — will meet in Abu Dhabi next week against the backdrop of new dangers posed by a spillover of the conflict.

Reports in Kuwait on Sunday said Kuwaiti air defences fired missiles Saturday night at an unidentified "enemy" aircraft near vital oil installations.

Attacks on Gulf shipping have escalated this year. Several Saudi or Kuwait-owned or chartered tankers have been hit by Iran in the southern Gulf, some in UAE territorial waters.

"We call on our Muslim neighbour Iran to respond to goodwill initiatives to end this destructive war so as to guarantee the legitimate rights of both neighbouring states," Mr. Nuaimi said.

He said GCC leaders would spare no effort to end the war through contacts with both parties and regional and international organisations.

"It is strange and distressing that this bloodshed should continue and these states use up their energies in fighting, with dangerous consequences not only for states of the region but world peace and stability," he said.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal told the Emirates News Agency (WAM) on his arrival here he hoped the Nov. 2-5 GCC summit would help end the Gulf war peacefully.

"Iraq has shown its readiness to stop the war and we hope Iran will answer efforts to solve the conflict," he said.

Prince Saud described the current Arab situation as "extremely bad" and said "holding of an Arab summit, if it can offer a minimum of success, is an urgent and pressing matter."

Kuwaitis fire missiles at unidentified aircraft

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A defence official confirmed on Sunday Kuwaiti defences fired two missiles Saturday night at an unidentified flying object, described by a newspaper earlier as an "enemy" aircraft believed to have been shot down.

Major General Abdulla Farraj Al Ghanim, the army chief of staff, said it had not been possible to identify the nature of the target.

But he told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) it was headed for Shuaiba, an industrial area adjoining Ahmadi, the hub of Kuwait's oil export operations 37 kilometres south of the capital.

He said the target vanished from radar screens after the second anti-aircraft missile was fired. It was then seven kilometres away.

"I cannot tell for sure whether the target was hit or not since the search for wreckage is still going on," he said. No wreckage had yet been found in a search of territorial waters near the scene of the action.

The incident, after a spate of attacks on Kuwaiti shipping blamed on Iran, occurred at 10.05 p.m. (1905 GMT), he said.

He said air defences had clear instructions to engage any target which infringed what he called the "suspicion line."

"Our men are watchful day and night... any target appearing on the radar is detectable and when it reaches a dangerous zone the air defences are clearly instructed to engage that target," he said.

Al Ahbaa newspaper earlier quoted Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah, in charge of Ahmadi governorate, as saying "an air target, an unknown enemy

airplane," was detected by radar above Kubbar Island, a tiny island 32 kilometres off Ahmadi.

He said ground defences fired two missiles at the target and it disappeared from radar, suggesting that it was shot down.

The report was corroborated by Al Qabas which quoted an unnamed but "authorised and official" military source as saying: "We believe the target received a direct hit, because immediately after the rocket fire it vanished from radar screens."

Al Qabas said the "enemy target" approached to within 10 kilometres of Kuwaiti shores, violating an area closed to air traffic.

It said a full official "assessment" of the action would emerge only after a search of territorial waters, adding that missile remnants were found in school premises in Fahaheel.

At least one shipping source in the Gulf told AP the target was an Iranian F-5 warplane.

"Quite a few people in the Ahmadi area heard two bangs over the sea, confirming that two missiles were fired," another shipping executive, based in Kuwait, told AP. "We have no clear indication as to what the jet was doing, or whether the target was hit."

The source also said it was not clear whether the jet was on a reconnaissance flight or was seeking to raid an oil tanker. He said that there were at least two tankers loading at the Kuwaiti terminals nearby.

It was the first time Kuwaiti air defences were known to have intervened against hostile aerial targets.

British Conservative leader resigns

LONDON (R) — Best-selling author Jeffrey Archer resigned as deputy chairman of Britain's ruling Conservative Party on Sunday amid press allegations that he paid a prostitute to go abroad to avoid a scandal. Mr. Archer was quoted by Britain's domestic news agency, the Press Association, as saying he had tendered his resignation to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher after "foolishly" falling into a trap to offer money to a woman he had never met. The News of the World Sunday paper said that Mr. Archer, through a middleman, gave 35-year-old Monica Coghlan about £2,000 (\$2,800) to pay for the trip. Mr. Archer, 46, denied he ever met the woman. Mr. Archer said he had received repeated telephone calls at his home from a woman who identified herself as a prostitute and told him she was being harassed by the press after word was leaked that she and Mr. Archer had had a liaison. "In the belief that this woman genuinely wanted to be out of the way of the press and realising that for my part any publicity of this kind would be extremely harmful to me... I offered to pay her money so that she could go abroad for a short period."

Fighting engulfs 3 S. Lebanon camps

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Fierce battles between Lebanese militia and Palestinian fighters raged Sunday around three refugee camps in South Lebanon, police said.

Police in the port of Sidon said 12 people, including four fighters of the Shiite Amal militia, were killed in artillery and rocket exchanges between Palestinians in the 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh camps and Amal fighters entrenched in nearby villages.

Further south in the port of Tyre, police said one Amal militiaman was killed and 25 were wounded as hundreds of Amal men tried to storm Rashidiyeh camp, home to 20,000 refugees.

Amal has been pressing to prevent a revival of Palestinian military power in the south, four years after most Palestinians withdrew from Lebanon in 1982.

An Amal military source said his fighters had battled their way into the southern and eastern edges of Rashidiyeh.

He added that Palestinian gunners were pounding frontline Amal positions with mortar bombs.

Sources in the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) said a large-scale assault on Rashidiyeh had been repulsed.

They said Amal bombarded the camp with Soviet-made Grad missiles, the first time such weapons had been used against it. Palestinian fighters burst out of the camps near Sidon to capture several Amal positions in nearby villages on Saturday. Amal said it had recaptured the lost ground but Palestinian sources denied this.

The sources said at least four Palestinians were wounded on Sunday in Rashidiyeh, where more than 25 people have been killed since fighting erupted there on Oct. 1.

A Syrian-mediated truce took effect on Oct. 12, but the killing of five Amal militiamen last Wednesday sparked a new round of violence. Two days later fighting engulfed the camps near Sidon, 35 kilometres north of Tyre, and has now claimed 22 lives.

Commercial life in both cities was at a standstill as explosions and gunfire reverberated from their environs.

In Sidon, Syrian-sponsored talks to reach truce were foiled at the last minute by reports that a convoy of trucks carrying 200 Amal fighters and ammunition had arrived from Beirut at the city's northern limits, political sources said.

"A Syrian observer and an Amal official headed there but contacts to turn the convoy back have failed," one source said.

The sources said Palestinian and Lebanese officials had almost reached an agreement under which militiamen of the Popular Liberation Army (PLA) would deploy as a buffer force when news of the Amal reinforcements reached the meeting.

PLA fighters manning checkpoints on the Awali Bridge just north of Sidon control access to the city from Beirut, 40 kilometres up the coast.

A PNSF spokesman called earlier for deployment of the PLA as a neutral force. "We insist on this as a prelude to a 'Lebanese-Palestinian plan,'" he said.

Syria steps up offensive against Britain

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria on Sunday stepped up a diplomatic offensive against Britain, telling non-aligned envoys that London's decision to cut ties with Damascus was aimed at supporting Israel.

Libya and Iran backed Damascus, and Kuwait expressed regrets. Arab press comments were generally sympathetic to Syria.

Britain cut links with Syria on Friday after a London court sentenced Nezar Hindawi to 45 years in jail for allegedly trying to blow up an Israeli airliner. Syria, implicated in court, denied the charge, saying Britain lacked hard evidence.

In a show of support for Britain, U.S. Ambassador William Eagleton and Canadian Ambassador Jacques Noiseux left Damascus on Sunday. Mr. Eagleton has been withdrawn, while Mr. Noiseux was recalled to Ottawa for consultations.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Issam Al Naeb briefed ambassadors from the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement on Syria's response. Damascus gave British diplomats seven days to leave and closed its air space and ports to Britain.

Mr. Naeb, who met Arab and socialist envoys on Saturday, said Britain's move had "no objective grounds, but aimed at accusing

Syria of acts unrelated to it with the intention of liquidating the spirit of resistance against Israeli aggression," the Syrian news agency (SANA) reported.

British Ambassador Roger Tomkys told British citizens here he had been assured by Syrian authorities that they would be able to continue to lead normal lives.

Syrian newspapers said the British decision was part of a Zionist plan sponsored by Washington. Arab masses "will not stand indifferent before this British-Israeli-American... aggressive alliance," the government daily Tishrin said.

Al Baath, newspaper of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party, said Syria was "strong and capable of responding to any measure taken against it... with harder and more severe measures."

Damascus would "not pardon the British government for its stand under any circumstance," it added.

In Kuwait, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Al Rashid said after a weekly cabinet meeting: "Kuwait regrets the negative development between Syria and Britain."

The Kuwaiti government, he said, was discontent over Israeli efforts to harm good relations which the Arab World wished to maintain with Western countries. He recalled that the Arab World

had repeatedly condemned all forms of terrorism.

In Iran, Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi declared support for Syria and condemned Britain as a co-leader of "state terrorism" with the United States, Tehran Radio said.

Libya described Britain's decision as "a hateful crusade against the Arab Nation," according to Libyan Television.

A Foreign Ministry statement, quoted by the television, said Libya gave full support to Damascus in the face of "colonialist and Zionist intrigues" and urged moves, including withdrawal of Arab funds from British and American banks.

Libya also closed its airspace for British overflights.

The government of Algeria promised its total support Sunday for Syria against what it called a campaign of intimidation.

A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry and transmitted by the official news agency APS declared Algeria's "complete solidarity" with Syria but announced no measures against Britain.

The Algerian statement did not specifically mention Britain.

In Tunis, Britain's ambassador to Tunisia has explained his country's diplomatic rift with Syria to the head of the Arab League.

Ambassador James Adams told Reuters he saw Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi at his own request.

The 21-member Arab League, which has its headquarters in Tunis, has expressed regret at the diplomatic break.

In the United Arab Emirates, the semi-official Al futhaid daily described the Hindawi case as a pretext for aggression against Syria by the United States, Britain and Israel.

Kuwait's Al Ra'i Al Aam newspaper said the withdrawal of the U.S. ambassador to Syria and the recall of Canada's envoy were further signs indicating a "conspiracy" was being "manipulously devised."

In Lebanon, where Syria has major influence among warring factions, the independent An Nahar said Israel would "benefit from the Western climate hostile to Damascus" to step up its campaign in South Lebanon.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir praised Britain for breaking relations with Syria said the decision was part of a vital struggle against state-sponsored "terrorism."

"The prime minister expressed appreciation for the decision of the British government to sever its diplomatic ties with Syria," an official statement said after a weekly cabinet meeting.

General slain in ETA-claimed blast buried in San Sebastian

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (AP) — Military and government officials on Sunday attended the funeral of a brigadier general slain by Basque separatists and a Basque peace organisation organised silent demonstrations to repudiate the killing of the general, his wife and son.

The Organisation for peace in Euzkadi (Basque land in the Basque language), founded by the daughter of a 1979 victim of Basque separatists, organised silent demonstrations Sunday in San Sebastian, Pamplona and Vitoria, the capital of the Basque autonomous region.

Roman Catholic priest Jose Escarresta, who officiated at the funeral mass, called General Rafael Garrido Gil, military governor of Guipuzcoa province, his wife, Daniela, and 16-year-old son, Daniel, "innocent victims."

The three died instantly Saturday when two youths on a motorcycle placed 2 kilograms of plastic explosives on the roof of the general's car as it was stopped

at a traffic light in downtown San Sebastian, officials said.

The Basque separatist organisation ETA claimed responsibility for the attack, raising to 35 the number of deaths it has claimed this year.

ETA said it would continue its campaign until the government of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez agreed to negotiate amnesty for its imprisoned members.

Since 1968 ETA has claimed responsibility for the deaths of nearly 600 police, Civil Guards and military officers in its campaign to rid the Basque country of Spanish security forces and secure independence for the region.

Three hours after Saturday's San Sebastian attack, bombs exploded at two supermarkets packed with weekend shoppers in the Basque capital Vitoria, injuring four customers. More bombs damaged a West German and two French car showrooms in towns near San Sebastian but caused no injuries.

South Sudan has no starving millions, relief workers say

WAU, Sudan (R) — Reports that millions of people are facing starvation in south Sudan are a myth created by the media seeking a crisis and relief organisations competing for work, aid workers say.

But the aid workers from several areas of south Sudan said grave food problems threatened the regional capitals and garrison towns of Juba, Wau and Malakal, which have about 60,000 displaced destitutes.

The governor of Bahr Al Ghazal region, Brig. Albino Akol Akol, told this correspondent in Wau that staple crops were poor to medium in his region and that famine was a danger if fighting between government troops and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) escalated later this year.

"The whole thing that two or three million people are starving is an invention," said one international relief official. He declined to be identified due to the sensitivity of the forces fighting the three-year-old war in the south.

The "starving millions" myth originated earlier this year when the 1984-85 famine and drought in the Horn of Africa faded from world television screens but money raised for the crisis in Sudan continued to pile up, unspent.

Western governments, who are the major donors, were keen to back the high-profile relief work in south Sudan, sometimes as a means of possible leverage in the area, the aid workers said.

Organisations like the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the U.N.'s World Food Programme (WFP), the European Community, World Vision and Band Aid reacted with good intentions but too fast and in

too uncoordinated a way, they added.

There was almost total ignorance of the real conditions in most of this vast, primitive region of swamps and plains, and political difficulties were underestimated, the workers said.

Thus what was expected to be a major ICRC airlift to Wau starting in August brought only 40 tonnes of maize and resulted in a nine-member team being trapped there for 10 weeks when flights were suspended after rebels shot down a civilian plane.

The WFP tried to mount "Operation Rainbow" to the south with maximum publicity, but the one C-130 transport plane involved was blocked in Khartoum for weeks and the "operation" was aborted after a few flights.

The "starving millions" myth lived until this month when aid workers started visiting previously unsurveyed regions.

Wau, a town of 100,000 people 1040 kilometres south west of Khartoum, is considered the place worst affected by hunger because of a partial siege by SPLA guerrillas.

The town and its institutions are in steep decline, the people thin and hungry than usual. But very few destitutes have died. Tribal markets bustle with activity. The poor can farm, fish and forage in the green, well-watered area.

Civil war has plagued south Sudan for 20 of the past 31 years and food supplies are only worse than usual in the three southern regions of Bahr Al Ghazal, Upper

Nile and Equatoria.

Christophe Dupont of Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) recently visited Yirol in eastern Bahr Al Ghazal, a settlement captured by the SPLA last December and thought to be a centre for starving people.

"Medical needs aside, during six hours in Yirol I saw no signs of starvation, although malnutrition is endemic to the whole area. I also saw few displaced people," Dupont told Reuters in Nairobi.

He said local people were far more concerned about rinderpest affecting their cattle — the key to south Sudanese rural culture and the reason there is no danger of real starvation so long as there is a minimum of rain.

Relief workers who have toured rural areas of Upper Nile region, which are controlled by the SPLA, report that there is an average 25 cattle per head of population and no real malnutrition problems.

In fertile Equatoria, agriculture and the proximity to five neighbouring African states mean there is no significant rural malnutrition in most areas.

The ICRC has stabilised bad malnutrition among primitive tribespeople in eastern Equatoria with a feeding programme this year for some 20,000 near the Kenyan border at Narus.

Food shortages affect government towns far more than the countryside. "Denying food to the garrison towns is the SPLA's strongest weapon. They will never give it up," said one Wau leader.

In Wau, hunger is advancing slowly but steadily through the poorer quarters of thatched homesteads and even middle class areas because of the high price of food, which cannot be so easily home-grown or shared as in the villages.

Juba, capital of Equatoria region, is isolated again. MSF's Dupont said the airport had been closed for the past few days. He said he had had trucks of supplies waiting to cross the Ugandan border since Aug. 8, while the other road to Juba from Zaire had been closed 10 days ago.

Like Wau, Malakal, capital of Upper Nile region, has been closed to virtually all but military flights since Aug. 15. But its population is close enough to rural roots to survive.

Some local leaders say failure to bring in food may be blessing in disguise for towns like Wau where marginal agriculture is so important that even government employees have Saturday off to tend their plots.

"We are not happy that food be supplied for nothing," said Joseph Nyekindi. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Wau. "It is an education in a kind of laziness."

Large-scale relief is usually dependent on political agreement by both warring sides to allow regular food convoys through — in addition to the fact that the long dirt tracks are impassable many months of the year and also prey to bandits.

World Vision convoys of 1,700 tonnes of food and aid that reached Wau in March and July were organised without SPLA agreement by Neil Winship, an energetic and unorthodox British ex-tank regiment commander, and lost eight trucks to burning and looting — an unacceptable risk to most other agencies.

Airlifts are particularly prone to threats due to enormous insurance dues — Lloyds of London is currently asking \$25,000 per flight for just a light passenger plane.

Eritrean leader denies part in Sudan blast

ABU DHABI (R) — Eritrean Liberation Front leader Othman Saleh Sabei has denied Eritrean involvement in a bomb blast earlier this month in the eastern Sudanese city of Kassala, holding Ethiopia responsible.

Sudanese officials attributed the blast, which killed two, to squabbling among Eritrean groups. They detained a number of Eritrean leaders, including Sabei, and ordered their offices in eastern Sudan closed.

Sabei, released after a week, told

the United Arab Emirates daily Al Itihad in an interview published Sunday: "We are not convinced by what the Sudanese authorities have alleged as causes (of the blast), and we consider the arrests an exaggerated measure which harms relations between the Sudanese and Eritrean peoples."

Sabei blamed Ethiopian intelligence, saying it carried out "this terrorist act to create problems between Sudan and the Eritreans."

He said he hoped a new framework for cooperation between Sudan and the Liberation Front (ELF) could be reached to prevent misunderstandings in the future.

ELF had sent the Sudanese interior minister a letter pledging respect for Sudanese law, he added.

ELF groups several rebel movements fighting for the independence of Eritrea, a Red Sea province, from Ethiopia.

Ethiopia denies backing SPLA

ADDISABABA (R) — Ethiopia Sunday rejected accusations by Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi that it was backing rebels in southern Sudan.

"It is not Ethiopia's fault if there is a problem in south Sudan," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement.

"Ethiopia will reject any attempt by Sudan to find a scapegoat in the name of Ethiopia for the continuation of an internal problem long in existence in that country."

Earlier this month, Mr. Mahdi told reporters in London that Ethiopia was still giving sanctuary, arms and diplomatic cover to rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

The Ethiopian spokesman said the accusations did not help to improve relations.

Mother Teresa leaves Sudan for Rome

KHARTOUM (AP) — Nobel Prize winner Mother Teresa left Sunday for Rome after relaying a message to Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi from Pope John Paul II regarding his call for a 24-hour truce, Monday among warring parties all around the world.

Before her departure, Mother Teresa told the Associated Press that she had given the Pope's message to Mr. Mahdi during a meeting Saturday.

Asked about the prime minister's response, Mother Teresa said only that Mr. Mahdi was very happy and that he had given her a message to relay to the Pope.

The Vatican has marshalled its envoys worldwide to try to persuade warring parties and terrorist groups to honour the Pope's call for a 24-hour truce Monday, when he leads an inter-faith gathering in Italy to

pray for peace.

Mother Teresa, who won the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize, said she had wanted to go to southern Sudan "but I was told it was not possible."

Christian and animist southerners took up arms against the Muslim majority government in 1983 to demand greater autonomy and administrative and economic reforms.

Ivory Coast moves embassy to Tel Aviv

ABIDJAN (R) — Ivory Coast is to move its embassy in Israel from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, a senior government official said Sunday.

The official told Reuters that the decision was taken recently at a meeting of the policy-making National Council in the Ivorian capital, Yamoussoukro.

The council groups government members and top officials of the country's sole political party, the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast.

The Arab League recommended last weekend that Arab countries should break with the Ivory Coast over the Jerusalem issue.

Egypt backs Pope's call for truce

CAIRO (R) — Egypt said it supported Pope John Paul's call for a worldwide ceasefire Monday.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement Sunday: "Egypt, which works for the sake of peace in this part of the (Middle East) region, supports the Pope's call in the hope it will cement world peace, help end armed conflicts and 'aggressive acts'."

Arab universities open talks on scientific research

IRBID (Petra) — A seminar for deans and directors of scientific research and Arab universities began here on Sunday at Yarmouk University in cooperation with the Association of Arab Universities (AAU).

The university's president, Dr. Mohammad Hamdan opened the seminar with an address in which he stressed the importance of the seminar's discussions to support scientific research at Arab universities.

AAU Assistant Secretary General Mohammad Nabih Aql also delivered a speech in which he called for the intensification of efforts in scientific research programmes and post-graduate studies to enable the Arab World to exploit its capabilities and resources at the pan-Arab level.

Working papers to be presented during the three-day seminar will deal with the conditions of scientific research at Arab universities, cooperation among Arab universities in this field, obstacles impeding scientific research in Arab universities and means of linking scientific research with Arab development plans.

Taking part in the seminar are representatives from AAU member universities and the union of Arab scientific research councils.

U.S. reportedly disinterested in bid for peace in Middle East

WASHINGTON (DPA) — The Middle East peace process is dead and will not be revived as long as President Ronald Reagan is in office, a group of U.S. academicians and former diplomats has concluded.

The United States has shown disinterest in the Arab-Israeli conflict and a "comfortable" neglect of the Gulf war, which could ultimately have damaging consequences for the West, they said.

The speakers, including some of the country's leading Mideast specialists, convened at the weekend for the 40th annual convention of the Middle East Institute, an educational research organisation.

Casimir Yost, who recently left a staff position on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said U.S. policy was further hindered by a Congress "profoundly uneducated" about Middle East affairs.

"Not only is it uneducated in regards to the Middle East, but it is also profoundly distrustful of

Arabs and Arab states," the result of "terrorism, an oil glut, and executive apathy," he said.

Pro-Israel lobbying groups, who withdraw campaign contributions from lawmakers refusing to support their positions, are only part of the problem, he said. Congressmen are "taking the easy way out, because the White House refuses to force choices on them."

"I see neither the interest nor the will here in Washington, the commitment in Israel or the ability in Amman, to move this (peace) process in any meaningful way during the next couple of years," he concluded.

The remarks provided a stark backdrop for a speech given at a banquet for participants Friday by Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Mr. Murphy said the peace process was gaining momentum and listed "positive achievements" that he said had improved the political climate in the region.

But Ambassador Richard Parker, in comments summing up the two-day event, said Mr. Murphy's speech had made a "valiant attempt" at credibility, but had only fallen victim to "the official rhetoric."

"The peace process is dead," said Parker, a former ambassador to Morocco, Lebanon, and Algeria. "Our quandary stretches beyond the horizon. For the moment, we are going nowhere."

Parker attacked the U.S. government for supporting Palestinian rights by advocating "self-determination," but qualifying those rights by rejecting the idea of a Palestinian state.

Responding to questions the night before, Mr. Murphy conceded that U.N. Resolution 242, defining the Palestinian question as a refugee problem, was "incomplete." But he refused to soften the U.S. stand.

"Don't be foolish," he told a PLO sympathiser. "Accept 242. We know it's incomplete, but it's very precious legal anchor."

Italian hurt in Lebanon car blast

BEIRUT (R) — An Italian Cultural Centre employee received slight leg injuries in an explosion when she turned on her car engine, and underground group which has threatened Italy claimed responsibility.

An Nahar newspaper Sunday identified her as Anna Maria Shukair, an Italian of Lebanese origin.

Security sources said she received slight leg injuries when a

small explosive charge went off as she turned on her car ignition at the Christian village of Zouk Maysayel north of Beirut Saturday. They said the car had diplomatic number plates.

An anonymous telephone caller to an international news agency here said the "Committee for Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners" was responsible.

The committee is one of the groups that claimed responsibility for a wave of bomb attacks in Paris last month to back demands for the release of Lebanese Christian George Abdallah, imprisoned in France for possessing arms and false papers.

It has also threatened reprisals against Italy if extradition proceedings against Abdallah were followed through.

Sharon calls for military action against attacks

TEL AVIV (R) — Hard-line Israeli cabinet minister Ariel Sharon has praised Britain's decision to sever relations with Syria and says the West should prepare plans for military action against attacks.

In an interview Sunday on Israel Radio, the former defence chief, now trade minister, called on Western nations to cut trade links with countries practising state terrorism. He named Syria and Libya.

"These steps, if they are taken, will lead to the isolation of nations

aiding and supporting terror and it is highly possible this will prevent the need to take military steps (which) also have to be prepared," Sharon said.

"The fight against international terrorism must be undertaken by the Western democracies, led by the United States."

Sharon did not specify the type of military action he envisaged. Last week, he said that Israel should launch assassination operations against Palestinian commando leaders.

Sharon said Britain's severing

of diplomatic ties with Syria over a plot to blow up an Israeli Jumbo jet should persuade France to drop plans to sell arms to Damascus.

Sharon said if France sold weapons, even those described as defensive, to Syria, it would be "repeating its mistake of several years past when it supplied an atomic reactor to Iraq."

Israel bombed the reactor near Baghdad in June 1981 and said the Iraqis planned to make atomic weapons there. Iraq denied the facility was a bomb factory.

Syria to continue efforts for hostages release

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria will continue its efforts to secure the release of American hostages held in Lebanon despite the U.S. decision to withdraw its ambassador from Damascus, Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa has said.

The United States recalled Friday Ambassador William Eagleton, citing Britain's charge that Syria sponsored a plot to smuggle a bomb onto an Israeli plane in London last April.

Mr. Sharaa, speaking at a news conference, said the British decision would not change "in any way our firm and principled

positions."

"We reject blackmailing and we reject to be submitted to pressure. There is no change whatsoever in Syria's very well known position regarding the assistance extended to gain the release of the hostages," Mr. Sharaa said.

Syrian troops control most of Lebanon, including the capital Beirut.

Seven Americans have been kidnapped in Lebanon since 1985 and most of them are believed to be held by Shi'ite Muslim groups loyal to Iran.

Iran and Syria have close ties, although they differ in their policies of backing different

militia groups in Lebanon. Syria has in the past promised to do its best to help gain the release of the American hostages.

Former U.S. president to visit UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter will arrive in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Oct. 29 for a short visit on his way to Pakistan and Bangladesh, officials said Sunday. He is expected to meet UAE President Sheikh Zaid Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan and other officials.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Programme review
15:50	Cartoons
16:05	Tom Sawyer
16:25	Programme on Traffic
16:35	Scientific programme (Arabic)
17:00	Return of the Antelope
17:30	Not Another Science Show
18:30	Local programme on Armed Forces
18:35	Local series
19:30	Programme on Jordan
19:50	Programme review and varied
20:00	News in Arabic
20:10	Oman Newsletter
20:40	Arabic series
21:35	Local folk poetry
22:35	Tomorrow's programmes
22:40	Arabic film
23:00	News summary in Arabic
23:10	Film contin.
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	L'ami Maupassant
19:00	News in French
19:15	Sport magazine (French)
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Living Tomorrow
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	No Place Like Home (Comedy)
21:10	Edge of Darkness
22:40	News in English
22:50	Strangers and Brothers
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 99.0 KHz, SW Tel. 774111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
08:45	Just a Minute
09:00	News Summary
09:15	Readings
09:30	News Summary
09:45	Pop Session Contin.
10:00	News Bulletin
10:15	Instrumentals
10:30	French way of Life
10:45	Concert Hour
11:00	News Summary
11:15	Instrumentals
11:30	Old Favourites
11:45	Guide to the Galaxy
12:00	Pop Session
12:15	News Summary
12:30	Sports Round-up

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
"An exhibition entitled 'Le Corbusier' at the architectural gallery at Riyadh Centre, 3rd Circle (until Oct. 31).	
"Soviet Book exhibition at the Grand Palace Hotel (until Nov. 3).	
"An art exhibition by the University of Jordan students at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Oct. 30).	
FEATURE FILM	
"That's entertainment" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.	
VIDEO	
"A video on calligraphy by David Gasham at 7:00 p.m. at the British Council.	
"A video on architecture entitled 'La habitation XXe siècle' at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 661026/7	
American Centre .. 644371	
American Centre Library .. 641520	
British Council .. 636147/8	
French Cultural Centre .. 637009	
Goethe Institute .. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049	
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777	
Haya Arts Centre .. 665195	
Hussein Youth City .. 667181/6	
Y.W.C.A. .. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. .. 644251	
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111	
University of Jordan Library .. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
PRAYER TIMES	
06:26	Fajr
05:38	(Sunrise) Fajr
11:20	Dhuhr
14:28	'Asr
16:43	Maghrib
18:24	'Isha

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
ALIA FLIGHTS	
09:00	Aqaba (RJ)
09:30	Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
09:55	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Damascus (RJ)
10:15	Larnaca (RJ)
10:30	Bucharest (RJ)
10:45	Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
10:55	Beirut (RJ)
11:00	Bangkok (RJ)
11:15	Baghdad (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS	
07:35	Cairo (MS)
09:20	Sam'a (LH)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
15:00	Beirut (ME)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)
DEPARTURES	
ALIA FLIGHTS	
06:45	Amman (RJ)
11:15	Bucharest (RJ)
11:45	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30	Paris (RJ)
13:00	Larnaca (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:30	Kuwait, Dhahran (KU)
16:00	Baghdad (IA)
18:30	Beirut, Doha (ME)
18:30	Bangkok (RJ)
21:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS	
06:40	Damascus, Athens (OA)
08:20	Cairo (MS)
10:10	Frankfurt (LH)
11:30	Athens (GK)
12:40	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Beirut (ME)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)

MARITIME TRAFFIC	
Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:	
— Yokoh	
— Alwathayn	
— Pavloutokolsky	
— Simcra	
Amin Kassar and Sons Company, with its new office in Shamsan, at your service. Tel. 60570315.	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be fair, with light and variable winds likely to change into northeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.	
Amman 13/28	
Aqaba 20/33	
Deserts 12/30	
Jordan Valley 19/30	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 32. Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.	
EMERGENCIES	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Youssef Rasheed	896301
Dr. Munir Kayali	643781
Nairoukh pharmacy	723672
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Al Sahab pharmacy	668056
Khalaf pharmacy	778653
Firas pharmacy	661912
TAXIS:	
Kamak taxi	668761
Othman taxi	630557
Ambassador taxi	846660
Al Jahad taxi	666412
Qasem taxi	636320
Nabih taxi	663003
IRBID:	
Dr. Jamal Najjar	(—)
Bashir pharmacy	(—)
Aza pharmacy	(—)
RAHQA:	
Dr. Hisham Shamsat	986632
Royal pharmacy	(—)
Al Sadeq pharmacy	(—)
GENERAL	
Jordan Television	773111/9
Radio Jordan	774111/9
Ministry of Tourism	642311
Hotel complaints	666412
Price complaints	661176
Telephone information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	17
Repair service	11
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in JLD per kg.	
Apple (double red & star)	220/160
Lemon	130/90
Mallow	240/180
Apple (green)	130/90
Onion (dry)	180/140
Okra	650/600
Olives (Mukammam)	360/320
Carrot (yellow)	260/200
Parsley	80/80
Peas	430/400
Pepper (sweet)	240/180
Pepper (hot)	270/240
Peas	250/200
Potatoes	220/180
Sage	380/400
Spinach	220/180
Tomatoes	160/120
Water Melons	240/200

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hindawi leaves for ISESCO session

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Thoukan Hindawi left for Rabat on Sunday to head Jordan's delegation to the extraordinary session of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO). The three-day meeting will discuss amendments to the organisation's statute and bylaws as proposed by the Jordanian government. The minister is accompanied by a three member delegation.

Egyptian tourism minister due next month

AMMAN (Petra) — Egyptian Minister of Tourism Fuad Sultan is due here during the second half of November for a several-day visit to Jordan during which he will hold talks with Minister of Information, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Khatib. Discussions will focus on laying down a strategy for cooperation between the two countries in the fields of marketing and the encouragement of tourist investment in Sinai. The joint committee for tourist cooperation between the two countries will also hold its meetings during the Egyptian minister's visit.

Cement company ships to

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Cement Factories Company on Sunday started exporting cement to Egypt in accordance with an agreement signed between the two countries. The cement was transported from the southern factory of Rasheed to Aqaba port from where it will be shipped to Al Adabiya port in Suez. The first shipment of cement is expected to arrive in Egypt on Nov. 2. A total of 750,000 tonnes of Jordanian cement will be exported to Egypt annually under the agreement.

Bahraini public works delegation arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Bahraini Ministry of Public Works, Electricity and Water arrived in Amman on Sunday for a three-day visit to Jordan. The members will visit the Royal Scientific Society to study experiments on building insulating materials and means of testing these materials. The two-member delegation will also hold talks with concerned officials on cooperation in water and energy affairs.

East German cultural team ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from East Germany left Amman on Sunday at the end of their six-day visit to Jordan during which they held talks with Jordanian officials on means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in cultural affairs. The two sides discussed exchanging expertise on musical troupes and theatre staging and cultural life in rural regions.

Balqa council heads complete course

SALT (Petra) — A training course for heads of municipal councils in Balqa Governorate ended here on Sunday and the 35 participants issued recommendations which they sent to the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment. They recommended that municipalities and village councils be exempted from paying part of the cost of purchasing land and other property for public use and that they be paid more interest on their deposits and funds in local banks.

Gas cylinder explodes in Nuzha home

AMMAN (Petra) — A gas cylinder blew up in the Nuzha district of Amman on Sunday causing material damage. The explosion caused damage to a kitchen and pieces of furniture in the home and caused one of the walls to crack, according to the Public Security Department (PSD). The explosion was caused by a gas leakage in a firmly-closed kitchen which also contained electrical equipment that triggered the explosion. There was no word about any casualties.

Jordan and Egypt sign accords

(Continued from page 1)

Chairman Yasser Arafat, Mr. Rifai said the visit had no political content and that Mr. Hassan was in Amman to convey condolences to the family of Brigadier-General Munther Abu Ghazala, who was killed in a car explosion in Athens last week. Brig. Abu Ghazala was the head of the PLO's naval forces, according to a report carried by the Palestinian news agency WAFA. His body was flown here and laid to rest in Amman on Friday.

Mr. Hassan is the first senior PLO official to visit Jordan after His Majesty King Hussein announced on Feb. 19 that Jordan was breaking off political coordination with the leadership of the PLO.

Agreements signed

At the conclusion of the joint committee meetings on Sunday, Jordan and Egypt signed three agreements in the fields of oil exploration, extradition of criminals and combating drug smuggling.

The signing of the agreements concluded the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee, chaired by Mr. Rifai and Egyptian Premier Ali Lutfi. Mr. Rifai and Dr. Lutfi signed the minutes of the meetings.

The first protocol, signed by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and his Egyptian counterpart Maher Abaza, called for continued cooperation in the field of oil exploration, following up on the work of an Egyptian geological team which explored for oil possibilities in Jordan.

The second protocol, which was signed by Justice Minister Riad Al Shakra and his Egyptian counterpart Ahmad Attiyyeh, provided for the extradition of criminals from both countries.

The third protocol covers bilateral cooperation in security affairs, especially in the fields of combating drug smuggling. The joint committee has also discussed topics related to bilateral cooperation in economic, tourist, agricultural and information and labour related fields, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra quoted Mr. Rifai as describing the meeting as intensive and said they covered all aspects of cooperation. The prime minister said the committee's views were identical on subjects discussed and the agreements signed on Sunday reflected the very strong relations between the two countries.

He said the committee was expected to hold its next meeting in Amman in April 1987.

A statement was issued later summing up the minutes of the meetings in Cairo.

The minutes said that both sides agreed on promoting their relations and cooperation in all fields. In the economic field they will go ahead with plans for establishing a joint company for investments and development, a fishing company, a company for producing fodder and lean meat and a company for producing agricultural seeds.

In trade, they decided to increase Jordanian cement shipments to Egypt in exchange for 20,000 tonnes of Egyptian rice and both sides agreed to bolster their trade through establishing trade exhibitions for their products in Cairo and Amman.

In transport, they agreed to bolster cooperation in land, sea and air transport and in telecommunications they decided to set up a microwave project linking the two countries through Amman and Aqaba and an agreement on the implementation of the project will be signed in the second half of the coming year.

In cultural affairs they agreed to assign seats in Egyptian colleges for Jordanian students and in tourism they decided to encourage investments in tourism and to launch joint ventures.

The ministers of labour have been asked to hold meetings to organise the issuance of work permits for labourers.

In energy, the two sides decided to exchange information, experience and expertise in power generation and development of power stations.

Later on Sunday, Mr. Rifai and the delegation accompanying him returned to Amman.

Economists, experts to discuss Jordan's five-year development plans on Nov. 8

AMMAN (Petra) — An international conference will open in Amman on Nov. 8 to discuss five-year development plans for the East and West Banks of Jordan, a spokesman for the Ministry of Planning announced here on Sunday.

He said that the conference, to be held under royal patronage, will also discuss issues pertaining to regional integration and international cooperation.

The three-day conference will provide a chance for participants to get acquainted with the experiences and expertise of various countries represented in the conference regarding the handling of economic and financial situations and dealing with human resources and the employment of science and technology in national development.

The role of the private sector in the economy and the transformation of public

organisations into private or shareholding institutions will also be discussed at the conference, the spokesman continued.

He said that the conference will make a declaration of Jordan's potentials and the Kingdom's role in economic and developmental cooperation within the Arab World and between the Arab World and the European Economic Community.

According to the spokesman, planning and financial affairs experts from Arab countries, European nations as well as representatives of 30 foreign nations and organisations, Arab and international financial institutions will take part in the conference.

More than 100 economists, financiers, specialists and industrialists will take part in the meeting and these will include potential contributors towards the

two plans which envisage investments totalling JD 3,675 million. Both plans place strong emphasis on stimulating economic growth and they aim for an annual gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of five per cent. Job creation is a priority with the government aiming to create 201,000 new jobs by the end of the 1986-1990 period.

Of the total investment, 52 per cent (JD 1,633 million) is to go to the public sector for water, irrigation, roads, communications, education and other social services projects. The private and mixed sectors will take JD 1,482 million.

The JD 461.5 million plan for the occupied territories is the first of its kind and housing and education will get the largest share, with 41 per cent and 17 per cent of funds respectively.

Jordan signs deal for 25,000 tonnes of U.S. maize

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An agreement to purchase 25,000 tonnes of U.S. maize for the Ministry of Supply was signed in Washington this week, informed ministry sources told the Jordan Times on Sunday.

The shipment of maize, due to arrive here in December, was purchased at a cost of \$79.90 per tonne, including the cost of shipment and freight to Aqaba. The agreement, according to the sources, was signed on Saturday between an official from the Supply Ministry based in the U.S. and a representative from a private American company which is to supply Jordan's maize.

According to the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, half of the deal will be financed by the ministry and the remainder will be part of a \$250 million aid programme to Jordan approved by the U.S. Congress in 1985. The aid programme covers the fiscal years of 1985, and 1986.

The sources described the agreed price per tonne "as fairly reasonable."

Scholars, scientists to review plans for Islamic academy

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four-day meeting to discuss the establishment of an Islamic academy for science will open in Amman on Tuesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. At least 50 scholars and scientists from the Islamic world are expected to take part in the constituent meeting.

A statement issued by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the academy is designed to serve as a catalyst for Islamic scientists to pursue contacts to

launch cooperation and exchange views on issues pertaining to scientific and technological developments in the Islamic world. An Islamic committee on science and technology, chaired by Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq, earlier recommended the establishment of such an academy and the idea was endorsed by the Islamic summit meeting in Rabat in 1984.

According to the Petra statement, the Jeddah-based committee has made preparations for the meeting in Amman.

Zarqa's fund-raising effort for the needy in full swing

AMMAN (Petra) — A campaign to raise contributions for charitable and voluntary societies in Zarqa Governorate was in full swing on Sunday and the teams involved in the collection process grouped representatives of all sectors of the community.

A spokesman for the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce said that committees and teams representing merchants, factories, banks, schools, community colleges, tourist and travel agents,

car rental offices and others are involved in the campaign, which was formally opened on Saturday by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma.

He said that the teams will be visiting 7,000 stores in the city which has been divided into eight sectors to facilitate the collection campaign. Other teams, the spokesman continued, have been signed the task of raising contributions in towns and villages around Zarqa.

After dinner suspense from Wait until Dark

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — With eight well-known British actors, an excellent director Tony Carven and renowned playwright Frederick Knott, "Wait Until Dark," a two-act spine chilling thriller opened at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel playhouse on Saturday evening.

"Wait Until Dark," is another production by the British comedian-turned-producer Derek Nimmo, who has so far staged three of productions at the hotel's dinner theatre season which is jointly organised with British Airways.

Starring in the play are Isobel Gill, who plays Susy Henderson — a blind lady, Paul Blake as Mr. Sam Henderson, Roy Boyd, Tony Gantner and Peter Wyngarde appear as Mike, Croker and Roat, three petty crooks. Anahell Laynon plays the role of Gloria, Mrs. Henderson's only companion while James Gill and Chris Jacobs act as the first and second policemen respectively.

A different doll

Mike, Croker and Roat, are anxious to find a doll filled with drugs and which has disappeared from a London flat and through a highly involved plot they try to get Mr. and Mrs. Henderson to reveal the whereabouts of the doll. The crooks lure the husband away and think their task of finding the doll will be easy as Mrs. Henderson's

only companion is Gloria. She becomes increasingly suspicious of the men and uses her ears to hear what she cannot see. In a terrifying climax, Mrs. Henderson makes use of the fact that in the dark the blind have an advantage over those who can see. "Wait Until Dark," ran for two years in London and on Broadway for an entire season before it was turned into a film starring Audrey Hepburn.

Knott is an author of two previously highly successful thrillers, "Dial M for Murder" and "Write Me a Murder." "Wait Until Dark" is also filled and spiced with fright, wit and thrills. Nimmo has so far produced "My Giddy Aunt" and "How the Other Half Loves," both of which have been shown during the hotel's dinner theatre season to appreciative audiences and reviews.

Carven has returned to a freelance career after two and a half years as artistic director of the Horseshoe Theatre Company in Basingstoke, during which he directed nearly 30 productions including "Godspell," "The Tempest," "The Glass Menagerie," "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," "A Man for all Seasons" and "Oh What a Lovely War," and in this production he used his directing talents to make the show a huge success.

The technical side

Credit for "Wait Until Dark's" success does not only go to the

director, author, producer and cast, but also to the play's technical crew, as well as the set and costume designers. Terry Parsons, the play's scenery and costumes designer, has so far created the sets for the spectacular one million pound musical "Singing in the Rain," the equally lavish sets for the revival of "Charlie Girl," apart from more than 60 productions shown in Britain and overseas, for which he designed the scenery.

James Gill and Chris Jacobs shared an equal responsibility in making the play a success through their active participation as company stage manager and deputy stage manager respectively. Jonathan Brown actively participated in the production as the lighting technician.

The actors and actresses themselves all have previous records of professional involvement and appearances in numerous plays staged in the West End and outside Britain, together with television and film appearances.

The fifth dinner/theatre season, which is jointly and annually sponsored by the hotel and British Airways will run through Monday and Tuesday.

After the group's show ends here, they will be flying to Doha, Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and Oman before they return to London on Dec. 5. They have already performed "Wait Until Dark" in six Asian countries as well as Egypt.

Jordan's vaccination campaigns successful, health minister says

By Sana Attiyyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A campaign to immunise children and protect them from diarrhoea diseases have proven to be very successful in Jordan, according to an evaluation study for 1986 conducted by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

The two-week field study showed that 70 per cent of children under the age of one year have been vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough; and that 65 per cent have been vaccinated against measles, according to Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh. During a press conference here on Sunday, the minister said that 27 per cent of pregnant women have been vaccinated for tetanus and 87 per cent of children under five have been immunised against polio.

However, a release given to journalists during the press conference said that 90 per cent of children have been vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus whilst an accompanying chart provided by WHO and UNICEF said that 87 per cent have been vaccinated against the three diseases. For polio, the release said that 90 per cent have been immunised, but the chart said 87 per cent. The release also said that 77 per cent have been vaccinated against measles whereas the chart said that 65 per cent have been vaccinated against measles. Although the press release and the chart were distributed to journalists, there was no time to read the information before the conference.

Teams pleased with results

Dr. Hamzeh said that teams

from the international organisations who conducted the field study had expressed their admiration for the results achieved by the programmes. "They think we set a good example for other countries," he said, adding that the ministry received special commendation for its measures to include bedouins in the programme. "We have 21 teams from the ministry, consisting of doctors and nurses, who go to rural areas and immunise children. The awareness among mothers has definitely increased," Dr. Hamzeh said.

The minister went on to say that previously, an average of 40 to 50 children in Jordan suffered from diphtheria a year. "But in 1984 and 1985 there was not a single case and this year there was one case — an 11-year-old child who was not immunised against the disease as a baby," said Dr. Hamzeh. He went on to say that in 1978 there were 128 cases of polio and this year there were only two cases; in 1984 2,104 children suffered from measles, and this year there were only 204 cases, and that most of them were older

children who had not been vaccinated at a younger age. The press release said that in 1984, there were 2,392 cases of measles and in 1986, 203 cases.

Life-saving effort

The minister stated that the programmes' success has saved so many children from death and permanent handicaps. "It has also saved society great amounts of money. Complete immunisation for each child costs the ministry only JD 2, which is nothing when it saves lives and stops the suffering of innocent children," commented Dr. Hamzeh.

Plans for more centres

There are 216 mother and child care centres around Jordan and the ministry is working towards 250 centres, according to Dr. Hani Shammout, who is in charge of the immunisation programme at the ministry. He also said that a factory to produce vaccines is to be built by next year by the ministry to assist in the continuing campaign.



Mothers and children congregate at a Ministry of Health medical centre for free vaccinations and immunisation during an intensive campaign carried out in March of this year (Petra photo)

Jordan requests Pakistan, Turkey to assist in restoration of Al Aqsa

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has delivered memoranda to Pakistan and Turkey concerning the restoration of Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, a project which Jordan has undertaken in cooperation with other Islamic countries.

The two memoranda were delivered to the Pakistani and Turkish ambassadors in Amman by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Tayseer Toukan who discussed the formation of a projected committee to follow up on the construction of the pulpit in Al Aqsa Mosque.

Later in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Toukan said that Jordan had reached agreements with Turkey, Pakistan and Egypt on the reconstruction of the Saladdin pulpit which was burnt in the Israeli-perpetrated arson attempt on the shrine in 1969. A committee had been formed to maintain contacts with Islamic governments and organisations to raise sufficient funds for the reconstruction work.

He said that former minister of Public Works Raef Nijem has prepared a design for the reconstruction of the pulpit and the design has been endorsed by the concerned Islamic authorities and is now awaiting implementation. Contacts will be held with other Islamic governments and organisations in order to provide funds for the project and a higher committee for Al Aqsa Mosque will be set up to supervise these contacts, Mr. Toukan added.

He said that he will soon meet with the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan to hand him a similar memorandum and asking that Egypt name its representative in the projected higher committee.

EC invites Jordan to attend talks on industrial cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is one of eight Arab countries invited to take part in a three-day symposium on industrial and technological cooperation to open in the French city of Marseilles on Oct. 29, according to a press release issued by the delegation of the Commission of the European Community (EC) in Amman.

The press release said that the symposium has been organised by the Marseilles Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the EC Commission with the help of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Barcelona, Genoa and Piraeus. Countries invited to the symposium are Turkey, Cyprus, Malta, Yugoslavia, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon and Syria.

According to the release, the symposium aims to pursue scopes of industrial cooperation between the EC and Mediterranean countries under financial protocols which are to be renewed soon.

Outlining the symposium to reporters at a press conference in Amman, the community's delegate Romano Lantini said that the EC is scheduled to take part in next month's conference to discuss Jordan's five-year development plans for the East and West Banks. The EC participation is aimed at defining the means through which European countries could participate in implementing these plans, Dr. Lantini said, adding that the EC will take a number of decisions on supporting agricultural and industrial sectors in the occupied West Bank.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Noor Al-Hussein Foundation announces the availability of three scholarships for academic and professional study in the area of Early Childhood Education:

- 1) One scholarship is available for study leading to a Master of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education in the United States.
- 2) Two scholarships are available for one-year course of study in Childhood Care in England.

Criteria for each scholarship is specified:

— To qualify for the first scholarship, applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in either Early Childhood Education or Elementary Education with a specialisation in Child Education, or a Bachelor's degree in psychology with a major in Child Psychology.

— To qualify for the second two scholarships, applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education or a diploma from a community college with a specialisation in Kindergarten or Child Education.

All applicants must have:

- A demonstrated interest in working with young children.
- Previous experience in teaching young children (preferred), and
- An excellent command of the English language, both written and spoken.

The recipients of these scholarships will agree to return to Jordan and assume positions as kindergarten-nursery teachers in programmes sponsored or operated in cooperation with the Noor Al-Hussein Foundation.

Persons interested in applying for one of the scholarships described above may do so by sending a letter of application to Noor Al-Hussein Foundation, P.O. Box 927226, Amman, Jordan. Letters of application should include a description of the applicant's educational background, previous work experiences and reasons for applying for the scholarship.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Nov. 4th, 1986.

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Tel: 819970

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

On the other hand, our judges in Jordan are good and on the benches of the higher courts one finds some of the best legal minds in the country. I believe that our judges as well as our citizenry share one common particular thought namely, the cause of judicial justice deserve much better treatment and they humbly invite the other main branches of government to accord it more care introducing attention and support. The support needed is multi-faced and ranges from modernisation programmes including the introduction of computer and microfilm systems and a more up-to-date

In developed states, on the other hand, the judiciary stands out as the most sacred and guarded instrument of government. As it is the arbiter of all disputes, including those between the executive and legislative branches, the developed world holds it with high esteem. In countries like the U.S.A., judiciary has been the primary catalyst and instrument to effect profound changes in the social, economic and political fabrics of the nation. Neither domestic nor external policies in America could escape its ambit. How can one forget or ignore the landmark decisions handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court on the emancipation of the American blacks and their full attainment and complete enfranchisement? How can one be oblivious of other U.S. court decisions which had put the U.S. Federal Government on a collision course with some southern states in the union especially over principles of law related to the elimination of racial discrimination, granting equal voting powers of citizens and the redistribution of voting district in order to give full faith and credit to the principle of equality between U.S. citizens? Even foreign policy issues came within the orbit of U.S. court decisions, as for example, the power of the president of the U.S. to

Since we in Jordan are on a general development course, it is high time that we support, promote and protect our judiciary system. We ask that many innovations in form and substance be introduced to our judicial branch of government. Above all, we all yearn that a day will come when our Supreme Court will adjudicate contentious constitutional issues especially on the principle of equality among citizens and the application of that principle on the distribution of voting districts and the matter of representation of various religious and ethnic minorities in Jordan. We certainly have many controversial legislations that have escaped thus far judicial persual.

On the administrative level, innovation is also urgently needed. As the notorious legal maxim declares: justice delayed is justice denied, we therefore need to set into motion new procedures and mechanisms to accelerate litigations. If necessary more qualified judges must be recruited from the best legal minds available in this country and we must be prepared to pay them adequately as most countries in the world do.

All these suggested improvements have obviously huge financial implications. The state budget must therefore be so drafted and adopted as to allow for maximum financial support to our judiciary. We simply cannot afford to continue neglecting our system of justice. Without a sound judicial system of justice, all the other forms of development in our country will surely be compromised and eventually will suffer irreparably.

And speaking of Marcos, there is always that fourth president in Philippine politics, whose specter lingers over the country despite his departure from the Malacanang Palace on Feb. 25 — Arab News, Jeddah.

PLURALISM in the Arab World is the title of a seminar which opened in Amman Saturday under the chairmanship of Crown Prince Hassan. The subject is one that requires detailed and deep study, and the efforts of an elite of intellectuals and thinkers to come up with a remedy for any negative aspects of pluralism in the Arab countries. As Prince Hassan said, pluralism is regarded as a factor of weakness in developing nations while it is considered as a positive element and a sign of health in Western an developed societies of the world. Prince Hassan said that pluralism has been associated with the Arab Nation since earliest times, but it is up to responsible elements of the society to make such pluralism useful and beneficial, serving as an element of construction within the society. In Prince Hassan's view, pluralism should serve as an element that could enrich culture rather than impoverish it, and that the Arab societies should be tolerant and open to ideas and to reject fanaticism which does not help a society to prosper.

But the conditions he set for the discussions, including recognition of the existing constitution,

"The main thing is that a dialogue is now firmly back on the agenda," said alliance leader Rene Abelnk.

"The defence of NATO essentially, as far as the United States is concerned, is predicated on the threat that if anything nasty

Since he controls the countryside and now the airspace

Clearly, the pressure must be maintained, or Africa will become the scene for a famine that could push the horrors of the last two years into the shade.

In short, this is a messy, ugly war; the price for continuing it could be two million lives.

But he thinks both sides are interested in cutting intermediate-range missiles, and that would raise the question

missiles called Pluton, with ranges of about 80 miles, that are to be replaced after 1990 with longer-range Hades missiles.

U.S. missiles could lead the United States to decouple from Western Europe. If U.S. isolationist sentiment grows, missile cuts could be followed by the pullout of the U.S. "trigger" troops, leaving Western Europe without an automatic American response to attack.

"The defence of NATO essentially, as far as the United States is concerned, is predicated on the threat that if anything nasty

Female skeleton may offer clues to secrets of ancient Maya

By Mercer Cross
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — A 1,500-year-old woman may help scientists better understand the secrets of a mysterious, long-dead civilization on the banks of Rio Azul in northeastern Guatemala.

In the fourth year of a five-year project, a team of American and Guatemalan archaeologists this spring found what may be a female skeleton in a bathtub-shaped tomb carved out of bedrock in the ancient Maya city of Rio Azul.

If analysis of the bones determines that the grave's occupant was indeed a woman, the discovery will add an interesting twist to the unfolding saga of the large riverside settlement.

Magnificent tombs

On the three previous expeditions, the scientists unearthed three magnificent tombs, all containing a treasure of clues that will take years to sort out. All the burials were of men.

The tomb discovered in 1983 had been looted, as have most temples in the area, but its walls were covered by remarkably preserved murals. The missing skeleton has been identified only as "Ruler X."

In 1984 the archaeologist found the skeleton of a Maya nobleman who had lain undisturbed for 15 centuries, surrounded by pottery, beads, and other artifacts. Last year they discovered another male skeleton in a similar tomb.

The two nobles might have been members of Ruler X's court, surmised the project director, Richard E.W. Adams, an anthropology professor at the University of Texas, San Antonio. He's not sure how a woman

would fit into the puzzle, but he's intrigued by the way the skeleton found in 1986 was laid out.

Directions of the compass appear to have been extremely important to the Maya, he notes. All the men rested on an east-west axis. The latest skeletal find lay north-south. Adams thinks the difference may be significant.

The archaeological sleuths this year have started using another tool to unlock secrets about the people of Rio Azul: dental studies of the skeletons found so far.

Dental pathologists at Adams' university are examining the teeth for evidence that might link the skeletons genetically and for patterns of wear and decay that could tell a great deal about the eating habits of the Maya.

Water destroyed skins

Although in ancient times part of the roof had collapsed and the tomb had been flooded, damaging the skeleton and destroying the kind of animal skins and fabrics found in the other burials, the latest discovery "is of great interest," Adams says. Besides the skeleton, its glyphs and pots will add to the growing knowledge about the Maya of Rio Azul.

So will four monuments discovered by this year's expedition, which worked for six weeks from early February to late March, with partial support from the National Geographic Society.

Three of the monuments are drum-shaped altars decorated with nude male stucco figures, falling to their knees, "bound with ropes, with disheveled hair, and each has blood flowing in streams from his forehead," Adams writes in his summary report.

The tentative interpretation of the altars, built about A.D. 350, is that the captives depicted were



Picking debris from a jar in a 1,500-year-old tomb, an archaeologist with this year's U.S.-Guatemalan archaeological expedition to Rio Azul seeks more information about the skeleton at his left foot. It may be that of a woman who lived in the once-bustling Maya settlement in

northeastern Guatemala. Colourful glyphs such as those on the walls of the tomb will help provide other valuable clues to the long-dead riverside society.

more dividends," Adams writes.

Robbed by guerrillas

During the staging process of this year's expedition, a band of armed Guatemalan guerrillas captured four archaeologists and two labourers at the village of Uaxactun.

The leftist guerrillas, who continue to roam the country's

remote jungles, herded the six expedition members, along with villagers, at gunpoint onto a soccer field and subjected them to a political harangue. Then the archaeologists were relieved of some food, a tent, and a jeep battery.

"Fortunately," Adams writes, "that was the extent of our losses, and the archaeologists were freed after a sweaty four hours."

Thriving security industry spawns myriad of new deterrents

By Kathy Marks
Reuters

ESSEN, West Germany — Ever since cackling geese woke sleeping guards and so saved ancient Rome from invasion by the Gauls, people have relied on alarm systems to fend off intruders.

Today the range of gadgets dedicated to deterring burglars, bank robbers and spies is staggering — and a spate of guerrilla attacks in Europe means big business for the 369 firms who piled their wares at a recent international trade fair in Essen called Security '86.

Star of the show was a harmless-looking red vehicle — in reality, a tiny tank with a hydraulic arm for dismantling suspected bombs. It can climb stairs and withstand a five-kg (11-pound) explosion at a range of one metre.

Viewing the countless locks, safes, metal detectors and video scanners exhibited by 20 countries at the fair, it seems like has never been so hard for the common criminal.

New devices on the market include a green paint which makes the surface of a fence or gate so slippery that would-be intruders are left grappling helplessly to gain a foothold.

The paint also leaves an indelible mark on anyone who comes into contact with it. The exhibition attracted 20,000 people a day, surpassing the expectations of organisers.

"It's not surprising though, in the present climate," said press spokesman Michael Hardemerten. "All the recent terrorist activity, as well as an upsurge in organised crime, has made people more security-conscious."

Size is the key to some latest products, which include a video camera of one inch dimensions for covert surveillance and a personal pager system so tiny it can be worn as a wristwatch.

Businessmen crowded around a stall displaying the latest in executive briefcases — shockproof, fireproof and one which sets off a smoke bomb, staining the contents red, if forced open.

West German police, checking out new equipment for their own use, were impressed by a mobile riot harrier, a coil of vicious-looking barbed wire which can be erected in seconds to control crowds and block-off escape routes.

But several firms promoting products in Essen voiced doubts about whether the trade fair was attracting quite the kind of customer they wanted.

"Where else can criminals pick up the latest tips — you can't blame them for coming here," said one company spokesman.

One company, which obligingly smashed to smithereens a pane of its reinforced glass twice a day, said its suspicions were raised when one onlooker inquired very closely about what special instruments were needed to break it.

Discreet contingents from the armed forces, government ministries and embassies also visited the fair, on the look-out for anything to enhance the safety of their premises and personnel.

One machine designed to control access to rooms storing top-secret data identifies people by their eyes. Tap in your personal number, stare into a pair of binoculars and if the machine recognises your eyes, the door opens. The system is based on identification of the make-up of the blood vessels in the retina, and everyone's is different.

"Cards can be forged or lost, but you can't give your eyes away," said a spokesman for the manufacturers.

Retailing at around 30,000 marks (\$15,000), these machines are not intended for purchase by the ordinary householder.

But people anxious to protect their homes might fancy a video intercom which not only shows who is ringing your doorbell but can also print a picture of the visitor.

For the less technologically-minded there is always the old-fashioned security guard, also offered by some firms at the fair. For 300 marks (\$150) he will patrol your home three times a night for four weeks and even water the plants.

Why Moscow fears the 'Star Wars' programme

The Soviet Union is extremely worried about the efficacy of America's projected strategic defence initiative — Star Wars — although so far it is only on paper and computer software in Washington. David Fishlock, Financial Times science editor, reports from London.

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan may not carry the whole of his own scientific community with his vision of an impenetrable shield against enemy missiles. But there can be little doubt that Moscow is concerned that his strategic defence initiative (SDI) could give the U.S. a military advantage.

The advantage Moscow may foresee is not just that it could provide the U.S. itself with a shield — an electronic umbrella — but that such a defence could eventually bottle up Soviet missiles wherever they may be pointing. By mounting what, in effect, is a crash programme to design such a shield, the U.S. threatens to widen a gap Moscow tacitly accepts exists between its technological bases, in advanced electronics and information technology.

This year — the third of the SDI research programme — the U.S. embarked on "architectural studies." The dictionary defines architecture as the science of building. For defence scientists, architecture implies the design of a combination of weapons, sensors, computers, power supplies and other military building blocks such as

"penetration aids" into a system fast, effective and dependable enough to counter the enemy threat.

Its goal is to test the building blocks "by some combination of ground test, field test, and simulation" in time for a decision in the early 1990s whether to proceed with SDI system development. The modifications the Soviet side requires to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty would certainly hobble, perhaps cripple, SDI objectives in this respect.

The conceptual SDI architecture so far have tended to stress the "speed-of-light" weapons, of the order of 100,000 times faster than inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). These would aim to attack the missiles during the boost phase while still thousands of kilometres from their target and relatively manageable in numbers.

At a later stage of flight, the missile releases its warheads and also a flock of decoys designed to look like the real thing on radar. These are the penetration aids. The same kind of beam beginning to show promise as long-range weapons may also be able to

distinguish clearly between warheads and decoys. But they must still be developed into a very fast-acting system if they are to cope with the numbers.

Overshadowed by public interest in laser and other beams are the novel kinetic energy weapons. These are projectiles hurled at speeds perhaps 10 times as fast as a propellant or rocket could drive them. This can be done by electromagnetic forces. These "smart rocks" — a modern version of the cannon-ball — promise to be a much cheaper way of intercepting an armada of warheads than beam weapons.

The architectural studies seek to combine these two kinds of weapons, beams and kinetic energy weapons, into a defence system which aims to destroy the maximum number of warheads early in flight, but can still mop up any survivors before they reached the West.

A confident decision on the SDI system — if any — to pursue in the 1990s will be made only if the building blocks are tested under realistic battle conditions, not on laboratory testbeds or computer screens.

Britain has unique experience of the SDI problem, through Chevaline, the £1 billion (\$1.43 billion) update of its Polaris missiles, now nearing completion.

Chevaline is the only missile system known to have adopted penetration aids, now seen as a big threat to SDI defence.

Chevaline is essentially a scheme for confusing the Soviet ABM defence of Moscow with a mixture of genuine warheads — at least two per missile — and simulated warheads or penetration aids.

Chevaline is an enormous "force multiplier" in terms of enhancing the effectiveness of the "original" weapon. Force multiplication through advanced technology is already a major commitment of NATO. In Chevaline's case, it may have improved the original weapon tenfold. One senior British scientist goes so far as to claim that for £1 billion invested in Chevaline Britain may have obliged Moscow to spend as much as £50 billion.

Force multiplication lies at the heart of all SDI concepts, including those NATO has begun to discuss for the defence of Europe. Two organisations central to the development of Chevaline, Hunting Engineering and British Aerospace, have recently won SDI contracts for architecture studies. Hunting is the repository of British expertise in penetration aids — Financial Times feature.

Reagans' nearest neighbour lives in battered box

By Robert Kearns
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Ronald and Nancy Reagan's closest neighbour lives in a cardboard box.

They have never met, borrowed a cup of sugar, chatted over the fence or even exchanged wary glances in the guarded manner of big city neighbours.

The man in the box is one of a handful of people left keeping a lonely vigil near the White House since police cracked down on protesters who had virtually taken up residence outside.

The tall, bald black man, usually dressed in army fatigue trousers and a tee-shirt, spends his days just outside the iron fences surrounding the lush green grounds, watching the feet of visitors and presidential aides as they scurry by.

Since August 1984, he has been a near full-time resident of the sidewalk on the western side of the front of the White House, several yards from the gate through which official visitors are admitted. He says his name is Benjamin.

Franklin Jones and claims to be a Vietnam veteran with a gripe against the government.

He sleeps at night inside the concrete barriers erected to prevent suicide attacks, and under the occasional glance of White House guards. Shielded from the elements under discarded boxes, he wraps himself in plastic bags for warmth and uses yesterday's newspapers for a pillow.

He says the U.S. army has denied him his rights as a Vietnam veteran and he plans to stay put in protest against an army attempt to murder him. How or why the army would do that is unclear and he declines to talk about it.

On the walls and roof of his cardboard house he has scratched: "U.S. army... Vietnam veteran... from Kentucky... here since August 1984."

"It's hard to tell what he wants," says a White House guard. "He doesn't break any laws so until he does there is not much we plan to do about it."

Jones has managed to slip through tightened regulations

designed to rid the immediate vicinity of the White House of round-the-clock protesters. His combination cardboard home and sign is within new size limits on protest placards because it is less than four feet high.

He is among the few survivors of the crackdown on full-time White House demonstrators and the only one on the near side of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Over the objections of the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups, the court of appeals upheld strict new rules which swept away nearly all full-time protesters.

For at least 10 years, local officials recall, protesters have camped in the manicured Lafayette Park across from the White House, where office workers sunbath, chess players compete and winos sit begging.

A World War II veteran from Texas is said to have started the sleep-in protests in 1976 when he bedded down in the park near the veterans administration to complain about a ruling involving

his benefit payments. When the police took him away, he sued and won an appeals court ruling that protesters had the right to sleep there as an act of political expression guaranteed by the first amendment to the constitution.

But last year, after 20 tents were erected to protest at inadequate housing for the poor, the supreme court ruled that the park service could restrict the park's use.

While the park remains open to demonstrations — there was a recent one in support of visiting Philippines President Corason Aquino — permanent ground-standing signs were barred unless they were smaller than four square feet and no thicker than a quarter-inch.

Park service officials said this was meant to clear the area of huge billboards, some 20 feet high and wide enough to house protesters and their furniture, which had sprung up, advertising ways to achieve world peace and condemning Reagan for one perceived wrong or another.

Randa Habib's

Team spirit

I AM a staunch admirer of the Amman Little League. I find the idea of offering children an opportunity to participate in soccer games both healthy and challenging. Our youngsters, in addition to practising a good sport, are expected to develop a team spirit.

But I was shocked the other day when I heard, in the field, one of the coaches of the juniors, obviously overexcited with the game, shouting to his team "trip them," "hit them," or even "break them." And the boys, between eight and nine years old, did what their coach asked them to do. Some children were hit, others hit back, and the healthy, challenging and exciting soccer game turned into a "battle field."

At the end of another game, while the two teams were shaking hands, one boy, obviously a bad loser, punched three children of the opposing team because he couldn't bear the idea of having lost the game.

Why are such incidents happening? Why aren't children taught that what is important is to have a good game and not to win it? I know that this is what the Amman Little League always proclaims. I know that many of the organisers put in a great deal of effort in order to introduce the right spirit among the children. I also know that people tend to get overexcited with soccer for different reasons. After all, football has had its victims. We have witnessed on many occasions how fans lose control of themselves and how people die because of the ball.

But, though one is never able to choose one's fans, one can most certainly choose the proper coach.

Drought and war create new breed of street urchin

By Dalia Daligh
The Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Drought and warfare have created a new breed of street urchin in Khartoum.

Most of the 10,000 to 20,000 shambasha, or "those who live under the sun," survives on odd jobs, petty theft, begging and garbage.

But a handful have found a friend — and perhaps a future — in Canadian lawyer Peter Daligh, who has established a school to take handful of the boys off the street and put them into classroom.

"Everyone told me the children were good for nothing, that they would run away, steal the equipment and burn down the school," said Daligh, 29, a U.N. worker who has been in Sudan for almost a year.

Instead, halfway through their nine-month term, only eight of the original 80 have dropped out, and Daligh already is seeking jobs for his first graduates.

"The whole idea of the plan is to give them independence," Daligh told the Associated Press. "The boys live in two shelters, they wash their clothes and make their own food. Their street sense is their best resource, and we are capitalising on that."

The shambasha are recent phenomena in Khartoum. It always has had beggars and the poor. But only since the disasters of the early 1980s have homeless waifs been living and sleeping alone on its streets.

UNICEF, the U.N. International Children's Emergency Fund, where Daligh works, estimates 8,000-10,000 of the children, almost all boys live in the markets of Khartoum, its twin city Omdurman and surrounding areas. Other organisations believe the figure is as high as 20,000.

The Sudanese director of Daligh's school, Suliman El Amin Abbas, said his pupils "are just a small group of the thousands and thousands who, because of the drought, desertification and the war in the south, have found themselves forced to the street."

Since the street kids are a new

problem, little has been done for them. Daligh acknowledges that his effort is only "a drop in the ocean."

"I want to prove to the Sudanese people that they should not write off these shambasha as garbage," Daligh said.

Michael Antoine, 10, and Muharak Mahmoud, 12, are typical of Daligh's boys. All are from the black tribes of southern and western Sudan. Years of drought in both areas and a 3-year-old civil war in the south have driven hundreds of thousands of displaced people to the capital.

Antoine, his mother and four siblings fled the civil war to the safety of his aunt's hovel on the outskirts of Khartoum. But his mother had many mouths to feed and no money. She sent Michael into the street to fend for himself.

Mahmoud and his family left their home in western Sudan early this year because of the drought and came to a relief camp outside Khartoum. As the eldest son, Mubarak was sent to look for a job. He ended up on the streets.

Mr. Daligh, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, wants to give the urchins a basic education and vocational training.

The 77 boys attend classes at a public school building from 3-8 p.m., after regular school hours. Boys 9 to 15 years old learn basic Arabic and mathematics and older boys have a choice of carpentry, welding or electronic workshops.

Daligh said he is so encouraged that he plans to start a highway courier service staffed by 20 teen-age boys. He was inspired by Khartoum's alysmal telephone system and enormous traffic jams.

UNICEF and Baidand, the rock music industry relief agency organised by Irish singer Bob Geldof, share project financing. Each has donated 75,000 Sudanese pounds (\$30,000).

A private Sudanese relief organisation called Sabah, or morning, chose participants for Daligh's project. Sabah also provides breakfast, showers and medical care every day to about 100 less fortunate urchins who still live on the streets.

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Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batshon

The following report summarises trading activities in Amman of major European and Arab currencies as well as gold prices. The writer is a foreign exchange dealer at Hattin Salibi and Sons Co.

World trading in metals

Gold for the second week fell to new lows as a result of some small buying early in the week from the Europeans.

Silver and platinum also fell from a high of \$428 an ounce to \$406.75 an ounce. Silver and platinum also fell from a high of \$585 an ounce to \$557 an ounce. Platinum fell from \$612 an ounce to \$558 an ounce.

Arab currencies

Short covering on the dollar, and the bad situation in Lebanon moved the Lebanese lira to a new low. The dollar jumped from a low of 47 lira to a high of 49.50 lira.

Syrian pound came under heavy selling and plummeted from 20.25 lira on the dollar to a low of 22.00.

Trading in the European currencies

Sterling was weaker through the week influenced by heavy selling after U.K. figures showed an increase in the trade deficit. But sterling was firmer against the Deutschmark, Swiss franc and the yen.

Sterling opened at 0.4850 fils and closed at 0.4785 by the end of the week.

The Deutschmark fell from 0.1715 fils to a new low of 0.1675.

losing two per cent of its value. The Swiss franc also fell from 0.2110 fils to 0.1995 fils. The yen survived the sharpest fall from 0.0002195 fils to 0.0002150 fils.

Gold prices in Amman

Gold per gramme JD 3.800
Gold per ounce JD 143,000
Rashadi Lira JD 26,000
English Lira JD 30,500

UNIDO paints bleak outlook for growth in Third World

WASHINGTON (AP) — China has more industrial growth than it can handle while prospects are so bleak for tropical Africa that its future lies in agriculture, the U.N. Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) reported last week.

The contrast appeared in UNIDO's annual global report on efforts by nations to enter the world of manufacturing.

Despite their efforts to industrialise, developing countries of the "South" — Southern Asia, Africa and Latin America — in the coming year will be unable to boost their current 11 per cent total share of global manufacturing production, the UNIDO report predicted.

"Such a trend... shows what a terrible toll the recession and the modest recovery have taken on the world economy" and the extent to which it is dominated by advanced countries, the report said.

Tropical Africa has the gloomiest prospects, it said, and action by the international community "could prove to be the only source of improvement and hope for the region."

It predicted population growth would continue to outpace economic growth, and suggested, "for the future the key may be in internal agricultural development."

But China, a developing country excluded from the traditional "North-South" comparison of poor tropical and southern hemisphere nations with the industrialised "North", has more development than it can cope with, the report said.

UNIDO's regional summary noted:

— Tropical Africa: Growth in gross development product, a measure of goods and services produced, will be 1.4 per cent this year and 1.6 next year, compared to 2.8 per cent in 1985.

— For the future, the key may be to inter alia agricultural development, in stable, preferably rising, prices of primary products and higher growth in Western Europe, which is tropical Africa's traditional market. The major influences are... largely outside the control of the (African) countries involved — the economic activity of the European Community, the terms of trade, drought and political instability," it said.

— Asian subcontinent: Industry could soon "emerge as a growth leader" as a result of India's achievement of grain self-sufficiency and shift to a more liberal industrial policy after years of "lackluster industrial growth." UNIDO predicted five per cent increase in India's gross domestic product next year, raising the regional growth rate to 4.7 per cent.

— South East Asia: "Industry in South East Asia is highly dependent on world markets," and gross domestic product will increase by only 3.8 per cent this year and by 4.1 per cent in 1987.

— Latin America: A reduction in overall economic growth to 3.5 this year and 3.6 next, with industrial growth diminishing correspondingly as a result of the region's debt problems.

'Diversification in activities, resources reduces risks for Jordanian economy'

But slowdown may continue for 3 years, economist says

By Samir Ghawi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Prospects for the Jordanian economy is brighter than those of many other countries in the region even though the difficulties currently being faced in the Kingdom could continue for three more transitional years, according to a prominent British bank economist.

Mr. David Ashby, chief economist at Grindlays Bank in London, told a seminar held at the Association of Banks in Jordan on Saturday that economic diversification to economic activities and financial resources make Jordan less vulnerable to regional shocks.

Mr. Ashby, renowned in forecasting foreign exchange movements and international economic trends, said that 1987 will be just as difficult a year for Gulf Arab nations as 1986, if not worse. He anticipated many bankruptcies and deepening recession in those countries through 1988.

From then on, a moderate recovery based on modest oil prices may begin, but it will not last long," Mr. Ashby added, warning that "it will not be an economic boom. A mini-boom might be more descriptive."

Forecasting lower oil prices for the mid-90s, the lecturer expected a new cycle of economic weakness

and slowdown in the long-term. Describing the cycle as "famine to feast" or "the seven fat and seven lean years (though not necessarily seven)," Mr. Ashby noted that for Arab countries in the region to be able to weather the difficulties, economic policies and strategies should either be adjusted or strengthened in order to counter volatile price fluctuations for oil and many other commodities.

Mr. Ashby belittled the industrialisation process in Gulf Arab states saying that "it is heavily subsidised and that it will never be able to become competitive by itself." He saw "no way out of reliance on oil income" for those countries.

Jordan, he said, would continue to suffer from adverse developments in the Gulf region in terms of low expatriates' remittances, less exports to the countries there, and diminishing flow of aid from them.

Mr. Ashby forecast a five per

cent growth for the Jordanian economy during the next decade. He said the growth rate might at best be 10 per cent, but there would be no recurrence of the 1976-1977 growth rates of nearly 20 per cent which was an unrealistic and overoptimistic prediction.

He described the five per cent forecast as being good compared to many other Third World nations despite the fact that prices for phosphate, potash and fertilisers, which are Jordan's key exports, "would remain low due to international weak demand."

The lecturer said that banks in Jordan would face difficult times ahead trying to adjust from fast growth to slow growth but that mergers would help strengthen the financial basis for the country.

On world markets and international economic trends, Mr. Ashby forecast a major destabilising force in dramatic fluctuations in oil prices and foreign exchange.

While personally preferring low oil prices, he expected a tag of \$18 a barrel in the near future. However, he predicted a rise to \$25 a barrel by mid-90s to be followed later by a steep decline.

Mr. Ashby said that growth in Western economies had not yet accelerated, as some governments took advantage of low oil prices to adjust their fiscal policies while others imposed an oil tax on

consumers to achieve the same end.

In less developed nations, the benefit of low oil prices were either absorbed to repay debts or to build up foreign exchange reserves.

Mr. Ashby did not think that the dollar's value would be much affected by oil prices as the U.S. budget and trade deficits were of greater impact on the dollar. He said he believed the voo, Deutschmark and sterling were more linked to oil prices.

The economist expected the dollar's decline to end in mid-1987 and that the Federal Reserve Board would lower interest rate by one percentage point once more this year before raising it up again next year by two percentage points. This action would help steady the dollar during 1987-1988 with little appreciation as the U.S. economy improved and trade deficit narrowed.

He added that prospects for sterling were dim as low oil prices and production, fears of inflation and a possible political impasse continued to bedevil Britain. Mr. Ashby predicted a pound sterling at \$1.35 during next year.

Mr. Ashby expected a surge in countertrade though, he said, he believes it was an inefficient method of cross border business as it disguised real price value.

Banks shun aid plan, cut loans to Third World

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — International banks have taken more money out of heavily indebted countries than they have been putting in, despite a U.S. aid plan backed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), according to a study published Monday.

The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said that in the past two-and-a-half years banks were forced under rescheduling agreements to provide \$15 billion of new loans to several of 18 Latin American, African and East European countries considered "problem" debtors.

But even taking that into account, banks reduced overall lending to these countries by \$2.3 billion over that period and withdrew \$4 billion during the first six months of 1986 alone.

"There continued to be no signs of any returns to spontaneous bank lending to problem debtor countries," said the BIS, which acts as central banker to the world's central banks.

Commercial banks had \$309.3 billion in loans outstanding to the 18 problem countries at the end of June.

The action of the banks goes against the intentions of a debt plan launched by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker and endorsed by the IMF and major industrial countries.

The Baker plan envisages banks providing \$20 billion of new loans over the next five years, more lending from international

institutions like the World Bank and IMF and economic reforms in troubled debtor countries.

The BIS said the reluctance of banks to lend to these problem debtors came despite considerable growth of other foreign lending.

Since the end of 1983, international banks provided non-OPEC developing countries without debt problems — mainly in Asia — with \$8.4 billion of new loans, for a total \$127.5 billion.

Eastern European countries, excluding problem cases Poland and Romania, got an additional \$11.1 billion, bringing their total to \$53.6 billion, while non-problem developed countries like Australia, Greece and New Zealand, whose banks are not included in the survey, got an additional \$16.7 billion, for a total \$81.2 billion.

Countries which are members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) but face no acute financial problems got \$1.1 billion less credit over the two-and-a-half years, reducing loans outstanding to \$71.8 billion. But OPEC countries as a whole remained net creditors to the world's banks.

The figures, adjusted for exchange rate changes over the period, are drawn from banks in nearly all major Western industrial countries and from offshore banking centres in the Caribbean, East Asia and the Middle East.

The report named the 18

problem countries as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, The Ivory Coast, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, The Philippines, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The report also showed that lending to all non-OPEC developing countries was steady during the second three months period of 1986, but at the same time those countries increased funds they held on deposit at the banks.

It said Eastern Europe as a whole got \$2.8 billion more credit in the second quarter.

"New lending has increased rather consistently since mid-1984 — by which time the effects on this group of countries

of the Polish debt crisis had begun to wear off," the BIS said.

Much of this new lending went to the Soviet Union, but Hungary and East Germany have also regained access to credit abroad, it added.

The report also details a massive increase in activity by borrowers in industrial countries on international bond markets, shunning traditional bank loans, to raise funds.

Taking all bank lending, bonds issues and repayments together, the BIS estimated that borrowers raised \$105 billion of credit abroad in both the first half of 1986 and the second half of 1985, substantially up on the \$70 billion raising during each of the two preceding six-month periods.

Joint ventures with U.S. firms flourish in India

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — India's new and liberal economic policies have led to a sharp increase in Indo-U.S. joint ventures with more than 800 collaborations in various areas, the U.S. ambassador to India said last week.

Mr. John Gunther Dean, who released the first directory of such joint ventures, told a news conference that most of the deals between the American and Indian companies were clinched during the last two years.

"People are finding India an attractive place and easier to do joint ventures... to actually consummate what they have been talking about," he said.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government has emphasised modernisation through technology transfer from the West, cutting of red tape, liberalising import licensing rules and inviting foreign investment in India.

Bank of America cuts staff

HONGKONG (R) — Bank of America, the big but financially ailing U.S. bank, said last week it will cut as many as 270 jobs in Hong Kong and Bangkok to reduce costs. The bank had already cut 61 jobs in Thailand and might lay off 18 per cent of its 1,180 employees in the British colony by the end of the year. The bank, which laid off 100 people in Singapore recently, said it might also close some of its 11 branches in Hong Kong. Bank of America has some 80,000 employees worldwide with offices in 70 countries. Its parent company, BankAmerica Corporation, is the second largest bank holding company in the United States. The bank lost \$23 million in the third quarter of this year after a \$640 million second quarter deficit.



Intermarkets review operations

AMMAN (J.T.) — A company press release received in Amman reported that Intermarkets, the Middle East's leading advertising agency network, held its general managers meeting at the Dubai Sheraton hotel last week to review European and Mideast operations. Attending were all the members of the corporate management team as well as the regional directors and the general managers of the Intermarkets' agencies in The United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province), Kuwait, Bahrain, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Yemee Arab Republic and Europe (London).

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



THE Daily Crossword

by Donald B. Groot

ACROSS

- 1 Ponderous book
- 5 Me Chase
- 9 Pie up
- 14 Person now
- 15 Kind of miles
- 16 Roman a clef
- 17 Soft release
- 18 Judge's bench
- 19 Engraved pillar
- 20 Sitting pretty
- 23 Full of mud
- 24 Not do
- 25 For East boat
- 26 Modern prison
- 30 Expression of disapproval
- 33 City in NY
- 34 Sink up
- 35 Pressing need
- 36 That's that
- 39 Bit
- 40 Touched down
- 41 — Riddle
- 42 Legal point
- 43 Carved
- 44 Partial
- 45 Taro food
- 46 Sane
- 47 In disgrace
- 48 Flag
- 50 Ornamental
- 51 Cane
- 52 Disarming
- 53 Desert part
- 54 Sea
- 55 Small duck
- 56 One who grades
- 57 City worry
- 58 Mr. Gardner

DOWN

- 1 Leap frog
- 2 Apple port
- 3 Bear legend
- 4 Ground
- 5 Round
- 6 Pensive
- 7 One pillow
- 8 Star
- 9 Capped
- 10 Neutron
- 11 Dive
- 12 Absent
- 13 Vase
- 14 Luge or pung
- 15 Chop's
- 16 Instrument
- 17 Olive forth
- 18 Mound
- 19 Indian
- 20 Soldier
- 21 Breathing
- 22 First king of Egypt
- 23 Tuckered out
- 24 Debatable
- 25 Message —
- 26 Fr. river
- 27 Prepare bread
- 28 Loyal or
- 29 Bartok
- 30 Heloise
- 31 Ave —
- 32 Of a certain church: abbr.
- 33 Frontier
- 34 Pudding
- 35 Inhabit
- 36 City in Bolivia
- 37 Red letters
- 38 Actress
- 39 Tailor
- 40 Mild oath
- 41 Labor leader
- 42 Tiny particle
- 43 Lulu
- 44 Ruse, range
- 45 Printing term

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

- 1 RINGS
- 5 RINGS
- 9 RINGS
- 14 RINGS
- 15 RINGS
- 16 RINGS
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DOWN

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INEEC

PRUCO

PEEXOS

SAHVNI

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O O O O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BANDY TEMPO DULCET CHEERY

Answer: What the "ham" was for the drama critic — HIS "MEAT"

Enrile asks Marcos supporters to back anti-Communist drive

MANILA (Agencies) Philippines Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile — a critic of President Corazon Aquino's government — Sunday appeared at a rally held by supporters of ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos and asked them to help the army defeat the nation's Communist rebels.

"Let us put aside our political affiliations and join hands to protect freedom and democracy," Mr. Enrile, who served in the Marcos cabinet for more than 10 years, told an estimated 20,000 people in a Manila park.

Organisers said the rally was called to protest against government policy on the insurgency and which has been criticised by Mr. Enrile as conciliatory. Many demonstrators carried placards with photographs of the former strongman and chanted: "We are still for Marcos."

Enrile was retained as defence minister by Aquino because he was a leader of the "people power" revolt that ended 20 years of Marcos rule in February.

"Down with the Communists," Mr. Enrile said, with a thumbs down gesture. "The Communists ambush our soldiers, kill civilians, extort money from our citizens and they are now operating the cities and urban centres."

The 62-year-old minister has been publicly criticising the Aquino government for several

weeks and has demanded fundamental changes, including a revamp of the cabinet.

Mrs. Aquino met Mr. Enrile last week and averted a major split by agreeing to some demands. But she told Reuters on Friday she would not bow to others, indicating that her rift with Mr. Enrile had not been settled.

"I want to tell the people about the danger facing us and the truth about our government," Mr. Enrile told the rally Sunday.

"To defeat the Communists, we need an efficient government, a disciplined military, honest and efficient police service and a clean and honest local government officials."

Police estimated the crowd at 20,000 but organisers said close to 50,000 people were at the rally.

The demonstrators jeered when a military helicopter hovered as Mr. Enrile spoke.

"I hope it is one of ours," he said. "If not, they can go to hell."

It was the first time that Mr. Enrile had addressed Marcos supporters although he spoke at two major anti-Communist rallies

in the central Philippines last week.

"Let us put down the Communists," the minister said. The crowd responded "Down With Cory" — Aquino's nickname.

"Cory favours Communists, Enrile favours democracy," one placard at the rally said.

Soon after Mr. Enrile arrived with his wife Cristina a scuffle broke out between Marcos loyalists and a man carrying a gun. The man managed to run away.

"My critics say I am making frequent speeches because of politics," Mr. Enrile said. "But I want to tell the people the truth and I am willing to be condemned than be dishonest to the Filipino people."

Philippine newspapers, meanwhile, reported 18 people were killed in four separate weekend clashes between government forces and the Communist New People's Army (NPA).

An Enrile aide, Col. Gregorio Honasan, said the minister agreed to speak because the rally was anti-Communist and not designed to show support for Marcos.

After the rally, organisers asked police for permission to march on the presidential offices at the Malacanang Palace. The crowd dispersed without incident after police refused permission. Mr.

Enrile claimed at the rally that Communist rebels were infiltrating Manila and other cities as well as outlying areas.

"The day may come when we hear bombs exploding in the city," he said.

Police have reported five bombings in the Manila area in the past 10 days, including weekend blasts in front of a McDonald's restaurant and in a building that housed Mrs. Aquino's headquarters during the February election campaign against Marcos.

Two people were injured in the McDonald's blast. No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks.

The Philippine supreme court has affirmed that Corazon Aquino is the country's legitimate president despite questions raised about the constitutionality of her rule, a justice said Sunday.

Justice Andres Narvasa said the Filipino people had "made the judgement" and "accepted the government of President Corazon Aquino, which is in effective control of the entire country."

The court's decision was made last week and announced Sunday in Manila newspapers.

"Moreover, the community of nations has recognised the legitimacy of the present government," the court added.

Zimbabwe to stop rebel takeover in Maputo

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe will fight to the last man to prevent right-wing rebels from seizing power in Mozambique following the death of President Samora Machel, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said Sunday.

Mr. Mugabe, who bluntly accused South Africa of causing the plane crash in which Machel died last Sunday, told a chanting crowd of 50,000 at a Harare rally in memory of the Mozambican president.

"Let (South African President P.W.) Botha get that clear — we are prepared to die to the last man in defence of the sovereignty of Mozambique."

There are already an estimated 12,000 Zimbabwean troops guarding vital economic installations in Mozambique and fighting Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) rebels, who have been supported by South Africa in their campaign to topple the Maputo government.

Machel and 33 others died when their Soviet-built aircraft plunged into mountainous South African territory close to the Mozambique border. Ten others survived.

Mr. Mugabe, his voice choking with emotion as he recalled his ally, said:

"The Pretoria assassins have ... gunned down this son of Africa."

Mozambique and several other African countries have said they believe South Africa or the MNR rebels to be behind the crash.

Mr. Mugabe said Saturday that he knew the plane had been brought down somehow but this was the first time he had directly blamed South Africa.

Among huge portraits of Machel carried by the singing crowd at Harare's Rufaro Stadium were scores of placards reading "Machel is dead, so Botha must die too," "Botha — why did you kill Machel?" and "Death to all Boers." Boers are South Africans of Afrikaner descent.

Mr. Mugabe said that following Machel's death Zimbabwe would step up its support for Mozambique's ruling Frelimo Party to select "someone who will carry on in Machel's footsteps."

It has not yet been announced who will replace Machel, a charismatic 53-year-old who led his poor nation to independence from Portugal in 1975.

Mr. Mugabe called on all "freedom fighters" opposing Pretoria and its rule of Namibia (South West Africa) to intensify their struggle.

Accusing Pretoria of murderous attacks on its black majority and on neighbouring black-ruled states, he said: "We say to the people of South Africa and Namibia: Forward ever (with the war), onward with it forever."

"We must redeem the soil of South Africa. Must cleanse that soil and we can only do so in the manner in which Machel cleansed the soil of Mozambique of Portuguese rule."

Mr. Mugabe said amid thunderous applause: "Samora Machel is not dead. His revolution will live forever. You can kill leaders but you will not kill the revolution ..."

S. Africa orders Red Cross officials to leave

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The government told representatives of the International Red Cross (ICRC) late Saturday to leave the country as soon as possible, the South African Broadcasting Corp. reported.

The radio said the order was in response to a vote at the Red Cross conference in Geneva to exclude delegates from Pretoria. It quoted Foreign Minister P.W. Botha as saying the ouster of South African delegates was illegal.

Consequently, the radio said, the government decided to suspend the international organisation's representation in South Africa until it is again allowed to participate in the conference.

Delegates to the Red Cross conference, led by Third World and Soviet Bloc countries, voted 159-25 earlier Saturday to oust the South African delegates.

Mitterrand turns 70

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand, celebrating his 70th birthday Sunday, is keeping France guessing about whether he will retire or stand for a second seven-year term.

Mr. Mitterrand, now one year beyond the life expectancy of the Average Frenchman, still appears in robust health and in full command of the skills that have served him through four decades in politics.

Opinion polls also show that the man who in 1947 became France's youngest minister could easily win the next presidential race due in 1988 if he chooses to stand.

No special events were planned for the birthday, even though Mr. Mitterrand himself attaches importance to the start of what he calls a "respectable age."

"A man can announce before he is 70 that he is going to stand again for president. After that it is much more difficult," he said earlier this year.

So far, however, Mitterrand — nicknamed the Sphinx — has spread a fog of ambiguity around his intentions, giving headlines to other presidential hopefuls, including Gaullist Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

Mr. Chirac, who took office after the right won parliamentary elections in March, has steadily eroded Mr. Mitterrand's authority in domestic and even foreign and defence policy.

But Mr. Mitterrand, avoiding the humiliation of becoming what he has called a "cut-price president," has bounced back since his Socialist Party's defeat with a spectacular rise in personal popularity.

Soviet security interests affect Afghan pullout — Pravda

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party daily Pravda said Sunday that the Soviet Union's security interests would be a decisive factor in the timing of a withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Pravda said the withdrawal of about 8,000 Soviet soldiers this month was a goodwill gesture intended to speed a political settlement of the war in which Muslim guerrillas are fighting Afghan government and Soviet forces.

Western countries estimate that Moscow has about 115,000 troops in Afghanistan. Soviet and Afghan officials told foreign

reporters in Afghanistan this month that the limited pull-out would not affect the combat ability of the Communist forces.

"As soon as a political settlement is finally worked out, the return of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan can be speeded up accordingly," Pravda said.

"As far as concerns those who organise, finance and promote the undeclared war against Afghanistan and those from whose territory it is being conducted, they should know: if the intervention against Afghanistan is continued, the Soviet Union will not leave its neighbour in need," Pravda said.

that Mr. Hasenfus is never going to see an American attorney," the attorney, Griffin Bell, told a news conference.

Mr. Bell said Nicaraguan officials have failed to return his telephone calls to the justice, interior and foreign ministries and to the office of President Daniel Ortega. He made the calls, he said, in an effort to discuss the case with senior officials of the leftist Sandinista government and try to obtain Hasenfus' release.

"I do not believe I can do it unless I can talk to someone in this government," he said.

Nicaraguan law requires that the chief defence attorney be a Nicaraguan, but Bell said earlier the law allows him to present a written defence. He volunteered to help Nicaraguan lawyer Enrique Sotelo Borgen in preparing Hasenfus' defence.

Sotelo Borgen, who speaks no English, was accompanied by an interpreter when he met with Hasenfus for two hours, Wednesday. Hasenfus speaks little or no Spanish.

Mr. Bell said legal terminology is difficult to translate and that even he, a professional attorney with a translator who is also an attorney, has "difficult problems" discussing the case with Mr. Sotelo Borgen.

Hasenfus may not understand the 19 pages of the charges against him because of the language barrier, Mr. Bell said.

He indicated there were some things he could not say since two government officials were taping the interview.

An American defence attorney said Saturday the Nicaraguan government has denied him access to Hasenfus.

"It just may be that they (the government) have determined

that Mr. Hasenfus is never going to see an American attorney," the attorney, Griffin Bell, told a news conference.

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Iraq to give 'biggest ever' prize for plastic arts

BAGHDAD (R) — The biggest prize ever awarded in the plastic arts will go to the winner of an international festival which opened here Sunday, a U.N. representative said. The \$30,000 prize "is higher than any granted to a plastic arts work in the history of world plastic arts festivals," Claude Rene of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, said in a speech.

A Red Cross spokesman in Pretoria told the South African Press Association he could not comment on the report until consulting with Geneva, where it is based.

The International Red Cross has 15 Swiss nationals in Pretoria and in Windhoek, in South West Africa.

The radio said South Africa was consulting with the interim government in neighbouring South West Africa, which it administers under an old League of Nations mandate, about the Red Cross presence there.

A Red Cross spokesman in Pretoria told the South African Press Association he could not comment on the report until consulting with Geneva, where it is based.

Airport closed so Gandhi can practise flying

NEW DELHI (AP) — All international and domestic flights at Palam Airport were cancelled for two hours Saturday so that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, a former airline pilot, could practise flying, the Sunday Mail said. The Mail said in a front-page story that the flights were halted for one hour in the morning and one hour in the evening so that Mr. Gandhi could log enough flight hours to maintain his pilot's licence. P.C. Vayas, director of the airport aerodrome, confirmed to the Associated Press by telephone that the airport was closed for two hours for what he called "VIP movement." He said he did not know the identity of the VIP. Mr. Gandhi, 42, was a pilot for Indian Airlines, the domestic carrier, until he became prime minister two years ago. He is not known to have piloted a plane since then. The prime minister has said that he sometimes misses flying and once compared governing India to flying "a huge airport, but with much longer response time."

Kenya bans TV drama on teenage sex

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi has banned a controversial television drama on teenage sex, saying the programme was immoral, insulting and undignified, the official Kenya News Agency said. The country's state-run television station suspended the 14-part serial on Wednesday night after screening only two episodes. It was awaiting Mr. Arap Moi's verdict on whether to continue. The Swahili drama was produced by the Health Ministry's Family Health Division and was designed to educate youngsters on the consequences of adolescent sex and pregnancy. Some parents and parliamentarians objected to a scene in which a youth attempts to seduce a schoolgirl. Others have praised the programme. The news agency quoted Moi as saying the programme "eroded the dignity of our society, insulted the modesty of our children... and should be shelved for good."

Mountaineer reports seeing Yeti

ROME (R) — An Italian mountaineer, just back from climbing the Himalayas, has said he had come within 10 metres of a Yeti, a creature whose existence he had never before believed. Reinhold Messner told reporters at Rome Airport: "I was one of the few who did not believe in its existence because I had been all over the Himalayas without ever finding any trace of it." Messner said he had seen the Yeti in Tibet in June. "I saw a being that at first looked like a yak... then at about eight to 10 metres I realised that it was another animal, like a bear or a monkey, walking on two legs," he said. "It is not a man, it is not a human being but an animal so far unknown to the zoology books," Messner said. "Now it is a question of organising a scientific expedition to go and discover the truth once and for all." Stories about the Yeti, a hairy, manlike creature also known as the abominable snowman, have circulated for many years but no scientific evidence has yet been produced to support their existence.

Refugees from Punjab protest killing of nine Hindus by Sikh extremists

NEW DELHI, India (Agencies) — Hundreds of Hindu refugees from Punjab rioted briefly in the capital Sunday to protest the massacre of nine Hindus and wounding of 10 others by Sikh terrorists.

A police spokesman said that about 400 refugees, who had migrated to escape Sikh separatist violence in the Punjab, stoned vehicles and shops in south Delhi at midday for a short time.

Federal paramilitary troops and police reinforcements were rushed to the scene and a ban on public assembly was ordered throughout the capital to prevent violence.

Police said four people suffered minor injuries, two vehicles were damaged and seven people were arrested after the late-morning violence.

The refugees, residents of a city shelter, shouted slogans against the government for failing to protect people from terrorist attacks.

The Punjab massacre occurred Saturday night in a predominantly Hindu village near Abohar when about six Sikh gunmen sprayed a crowded marketplace with machine gun and pistol fire.

Galtieri to be tried for human rights violations

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine court sources have said former President Leopoldo Galtieri will be tried in public on human rights charges before the end of the year.

They said the trial in the northern city of Rosario would cover around 100 cases of human rights violations, including homicide, illegal abduction and torture, which occurred in the area under military rule from 1976 to 1983.

It would be the first public human rights trial outside Buenos Aires.

Gen. Galtieri, who was president for just over six months from 1981 to 1982, served as commander of the Second Army Corps, headquartered in Rosario, in the late 1970s. Rosario is 370 kilometres north of Buenos Aires.

In 1985, Gen. Galtieri was jailed for 12 years by the Armed Forces Supreme Council for gross negligence in his handling of the 1982 war with Britain over the

Falkland Islands.

But he was acquitted in the human rights trial that sentenced his predecessors as president, Generals Jorge Videla and Roberto Viola, to prison terms of life and 17 years respectively.

In that trial Gen. Galtieri only faced charges related to his brief presidency.

The court sources said the trial would begin in the late November or early December, unless the prosecutor asked for more time to gather evidence. They said the prosecution was expected to call 300 witnesses.

President Raul Alfonsin, on taking office in December 1983 at the end of eight years of military rule, ordered human rights trials against the nine members of the military junta.

The President also ordered the trial of two other military officers. But the bringing of human rights charges against other officers was left to individual complainants and state prosecutors.

U.S. plane slides off runway injuring 26

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — A plane with 118 people aboard skidded off a runway as it was landing at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, smashed through a fence and stopped nose down on a railroad track, injuring at least 26 people, officials said.

Piedmont Airlines spokesman Ken Carlson said the Boeing 737-200 "landed fine and just slid off the runway." At the time a little after 8 p.m., it was raining, he said.

Carlson said preliminary reports indicated that 22 passengers and four crew members had been injured. He said they were taken to Charlotte Memorial Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte.

Cecily Newton, a spokeswoman for Charlotte Memorial Hospital, said five people had been examined in the emergency room and 16 more people were expected. She said the injuries appeared to be minor.

"Most injuries include aches and pains," she said. "They are just bumped up."

"It was a difficult landing," said passenger Neal Forney of Charlotte. "We touched down and there was a violent bump. I thought, well, it was just a bump. And then there was another violent bump, and the plane crashed forward and we slid for a while and came to a stop."

"I realised about three-fourths of the way down the runway that we weren't going to stop. I grabbed my wife and we both went over," passenger Eric Meyerhoff, 57, of Savannah, told the Charlotte Observer. "When we hit the embankment, I jerked the door open and helped everybody on that side of the plane off. There was fuel pouring all over. Fortunately nothing ignited."

Honecker ends visit to China

PEKING (AP) — East German President Erich Honecker left China Sunday after a six-day visit that effectively revived ties between the two Communist countries.

Mr. Honecker, 74, the first East German head of state ever to visit China, was seen off at Peking airport by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, Zhu Liang, head of the party Central Committee's International Liaison Department, and other officials.

Mr. Honecker arrived in Peking last Tuesday, where he met top leader Deng Xiaoping, party boss Hu Yaobang, President Li Xianian and Premier Zhao Ziyang. He then travelled to Nanjing, where he met Mr. Hu again, and Shanghai. He returned to Peking Sunday morning.

His talks with Chinese leaders emphasised that the two countries have entered a "new phase" after more than two decades of strained relations following China's split with the Soviet Union in the early 1960s.

His meetings with Mr. Hu — twice in Peking and once in Nanjing — signalled the revival of party ties that were never formally broken but had been moribund since the Sino-Soviet split over ideological and strategic disputes. Mr. Honecker is also head of the East German Socialist Unity Party.

While in Peking, Mr. Honecker also witnessed the signing of agreements on bilateral economic, scientific and technological cooperation and a protocol on exchange of goods.

Mr. Honecker's trip followed a "working visit" to China last month by Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski, which also set Sino-Polish party ties on the path to normalisation.

MANAGUA (Agencies) — A U.S. airman downed over Nicaragua on a rebel supply flight has called on the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to acknowledge responsibility for the flight.

"I was directly working for these people and they should directly do something about," said Eugene Hasenfus, 45, accused by the left-wing Sandinista government of trying to topple it.

"Somebody knows a lot of things and I wish somebody would stand up and say something about it," he said in an interview in the maximum security jail where he is being held 25 kilometres east of Managua.

He also said U.S. military personnel in El Salvador were aware of the supply operation and on one occasion a U.S. colonel had complained of the way it was being run.

The comments were his strongest public assertion yet that the operation to supply U.S.-backed rebels in Nicaragua was managed by the CIA, which has denied involvement.

Hasenfus, of Marinette, Wisconsin, was captured on Oct. 6 after parachuting from his plane which was hit by a Sandinista missile as it delivered arms to U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels, known as contras.

He faces a maximum 30 years in jail if found guilty on any of the charges against him of terrorism, violating security and criminal

association.

A burly, light-haired man, Hasenfus appeared relaxed and said he was well treated. With a grin, he described his cell as a suite, saying it had recently been fitted with a television set.

He shares the cell with Nicaraguan-American William Luther an alleged former CIA spy.

Hasenfus said private aviation companies were used as a front for U.S. involvement in the El Salvador-based operation, recruiting pilots and air freight specialists who previously had worked in CIA missions in the 1970s in South East Asia.

"This was well thought out and well planned," he said. But lately the operation had become "too lax," he added.

The plane and two of its American crew members killed when it was shot down carried documents with extensive details about the secret operations.

The documents, including log books and flight plans, together with Hasenfus' testimony, have fuelled allegations that the Reagan administration may have broken a congressional ban on arming the contras.

President Reagan has since signed into law a mainly military \$100 million aid package for the rebels. But U.S. involvement before then would have been illegal.

Officials in Washington, denying involvement, have described Hasenfus as a hero but

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND ORAN SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q93 ♠6542 ♣A8 ♣AQJ9
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠
What do you bid now?

Q.2 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q108 ♠93 ♣Q83 ♣QJ782
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ 1 ♠
What action do you take?

Q.3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q962 ♠7 ♣KQJ10 ♠KQ83
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A3 ♠KQJ10952 ♣A36 ♠5
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one club. What do you bid now?

Q.5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQ63 ♠K9 ♠85 ♠Q883
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠
Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠107 ♠Q98 ♠QJ82 ♠KJ105
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?